



Public Comment Form

Name*: Elizabeth Huston Organization*: Synchromy

Email*: Synchromy@Synchromy.org Phone*: 360-305-7825

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.

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Comments

Save Elephant Hill ULAR WASC

Dear Members of the Upper LA River Watershed Area Steering Committee,

I am writing to address a critical issue concerning the management of rainwater flow in our region, particularly pertaining to Elephant Hill. It is imperative that we take decisive action to capture and retain rainwater rather than allowing it to flow unchecked. This is not only because rainwater is a valuable resource, but also due to its detrimental effects on our infrastructure and environment.

The unchecked flow of rainwater down Elephant Hill poses several significant problems. Firstly, it causes damage to our streets, exacerbating erosion and undermining the integrity of our roadways. This not only leads to costly repairs but also poses safety hazards for residents and commuters alike. Additionally, the uncontrolled flow of rainwater carries bacteria and toxins into our storm drains, which ultimately find their way into the ocean, polluting our waterways and endangering marine life.

Furthermore, the unchecked flow of rainwater extends beyond the streets, infiltrating the backyards of many surrounding homes and causing damage to properties. This not only leads to financial burdens for homeowners but also diminishes the quality of life for residents in the affected areas.

In light of these pressing concerns, I urge the committee to consider the proposal put forth by Save Elephant Hill. Their proposal represents a community-led, multi-benefit project.



Public Comment Form

Name*: J Janice Yen Organization*: NCRR
Email*: JYen2309@aol.com Phone*: 323-528-9657
Meeting: Watershed Area (Save Elephant Hill) Date: March 31, 2024

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

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Comments

Public Comment Watershed Area

Hello, I am a resident on Harriman Ave which is next to Elephant Hill. We need SCWLA to fund improvements on Elephant Hill. During heavy rains there is much run-off of mud, water, rocks and debris into the streets near us. We need SCWLA's help to install water catchments or other means of letting the rainwater soak into the soil. Please include save Elephant Hill in your funding. Thank you.

Janice Yen
4623 Harriman Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90032



Public Comment Form

Name*: Kit McConnell Organization*: Elephant Hill Garden

Email*: mcconnellkit@yahoo.com Phone*: (213) 675-3386

Meeting: ULAR WASC— SAVE ELEPHANT HILL Date: 3/30/24

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Comments

The ULAR WASC has an amazing opportunity to bring about positive ecological impact in a historically underserved region of Los Angeles by looking into stormwater strategies and innovations upon Elephant Hill. We are hopeful that these comments will aid in your decision.

Rainwater that flows down Elephant Hill should be captured and retained, not only because rainwater is a valuable resource but because it causes damage to our streets and carries bacteria and toxins into our storm drains and onto then the ocean.

Rainwater also makes its way into the backyards of many surrounding homes also causing damage.

Save Elephant Hill is a trusted partner of El Sereno residents, MRCA and the City of LA; its leadership has solid experience with stormwater issues This proposal is an example of a community-led, multi-benefit project that can be a model for other SCWP projects



Public Comment Form

Name*: Micah Haserjian Organization*: Coyotl + Macehualli

Email*: info@coyotlmacehualli.org Phone*: (213) 674-9622

Meeting: _____ Date: _____

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Comments

To: Upper LA River Watershed Area Steering Committee

Re: Save Elephant Hill – ULAR WASC

I represent Coyotl + Macehualli, a Northeast Los Angeles based environmental justice organization that is a trusted partner of Save Elephant Hill. We fully support Save Elephant Hill's application for the LA County Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP). The Elephant Hill Open Space Area and surrounding neighborhood is an important area of concern when it comes to rainwater and environmental damage.

- Rainwater that flows down Elephant Hill should be captured and retained, not only because rainwater is a valuable resource but because it causes damage to our streets and carries bacteria and toxins into our storm drains and onto then the ocean.

-Rainwater also makes its way into the backyards of many surrounding homes also causing damage.

-Save Elephant Hill is a trusted partner of El Sereno residents, MRCA and the City of LA; its leadership has solid experience with stormwater issues.

-This proposal is an example of a community-led, multi-benefit project that can be a model for other SCWP projects.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Tori Kjer Organization*: Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust
Email*: tkjer@lanl.org Phone*: 3109093891
Meeting: _____ Date: 4/1/2024

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Comments

Save Elephant Hill ULAR WASC

Good morning,
I am emailing to request support for the Elephant Hill project. Please see my comments as to why this project fits with an ULAR WASC request:

Elephant Hill provides important open space for NELA. In addition to providing recreation space, habitat connectivity and other regional benefits including cooling the urban environment, Elephant Hill is one of the last large open spaces in NELA. Water quality and water supply benefits provided by the project are many. Due to the urbanized nature of NELA, the rainwater management at Elephant Hill is a critical issue for our community. Uncontrolled runoff from the hill not only damages our streets but also carries bacteria and toxins into storm drains and eventually the ocean. Additionally, the run-off affects nearby homes by causing damage to backyards. Save Elephant Hill, is a trusted partner of El Sereno residents, MRCA, and the City of LA, proposes a community-led, multi-benefit project that can serve as a model for other stormwater management initiatives.

Please support this project.

Thank you!

Tori Kjer

Executive Director

LANLT



Public Comment Form

Name*: Dr. Mehrad Kamalzare I Dr. Ali Sharbat Organization*: Cal Poly Pomona

Email*: mkamalzare@cpp.edu I sharbat@cpp.edu Phone*: (909) 869-4908 I (909) 869-2175

Meeting: ULAR WASC Date: April 3, 2024

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Comments

Please see the attached letter.



**Civil Engineering
College of Engineering**

Date: April 1st, 2024

To: Upper Los Angeles River (ULAR) Watershed Area Steering Committee

Dear Members of the ULAR Watershed Area Steering Committee,

This intent of this letter to provide insights regarding the community investment benefits and broader impacts of the proposed Scientific Study entitled "Identifying Best Practices for Maintaining Stormwater Drywells," led by Cal Poly Pomona.

In essence, the proposed scientific study seeks to undertake scholarly efforts aimed at identifying best practices in deep infiltration infrastructure design, pre-treatment methods, and maintenance procedures to maximize the capacity of drywell infrastructure over time. Notably, in recent years, numerous municipalities and stakeholders in Los Angeles County have installed thousands of drywells, with plans to install many more in the near future. However, a substantial knowledge gap persists, particularly about best practices for operating and maintaining drywell systems. While anecdotal reports of drywell clogging and reduced infiltration capacity are available, rigorous studies examining drywell capacity over time are scarce. Consequently, there is limited information regarding best drywell design, pre-treatment systems, and maintenance practices to optimize infiltration capacity. Data science and machine learning approaches will aid in carefully finalizing study sites. Infiltration testing will be conducted periodically to document the effects of runoff volume and maintenance practices. Technical reports will be prepared and disseminated to inquire technical feedback from project owners and stakeholders. Interim findings may prompt recommendations for modifying maintenance practices. Quantitative data on factors affecting drywell capacity and performance over time have the potential to significantly enhance the return on investment in stormwater infrastructure. The benefits of this study include:

- Recommendations for deep infiltration infrastructure designs and pre-treatment practices that balance cost and long-term performance;
- Identifying the appropriate maintenance frequency and practices for different runoff volumes and levels of land-use and traffic loading within the catchment basin; and
- Determining how soil characteristics can impact long-term performance and potential changes in design and maintenance to address fine-grained soils.

This multi-institutional research effort, led by Cal Poly Pomona in collaboration with UC Santa Barbara, involves students, primarily from underrepresented minority groups. The project encompasses significant community investment components, particularly in workforce development and education. Cal Poly Pomona, as a Hispanic Serving Institution, serves a diverse student body, with a significant proportion being first-generation and ethnic minorities. Figure 1 is an infographic that illustrates Cal Poly Pomona's student population demographics.

With serving more than 26,000 students, our first-generation student population stands at 55%, and ethnic minorities make up 56% of the total student body. Overall, the proposed scientific study presents direct



**Civil Engineering
College of Engineering**

opportunities for educational growth and development for a significant population of young adults, primarily from underserved minority backgrounds.

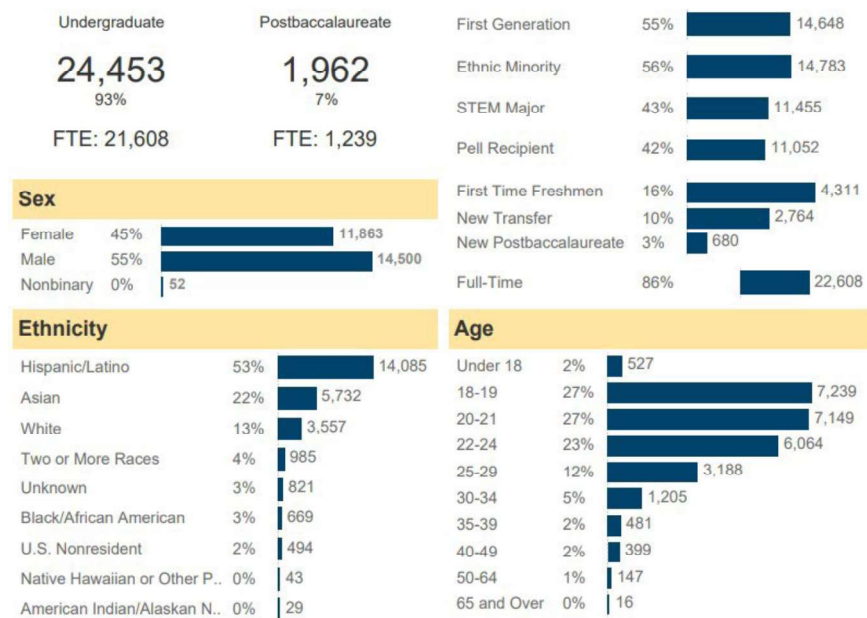


Figure 1. Cal Poly Pomona's student population demographics

Leveraging funds within the university can be utilized to support the objectives of this scientific study. Specifically, there are student research programs funded by the Department of Education that can serve as sources of support for students engaged in scholarly work on STEM projects. Guidance will be provided to students to help them access these leveraging funds. Additionally, similar opportunities for funding exist within the university for travel purposes. Our project students can apply for support from various programs within the university and the CSU system to attend technical events and conferences, facilitating the dissemination of the study's outcomes.

There are other broader impacts of the scientific study for regional workforce development including: offering Senior Project (EGR 4810/4820/4830) course series focused on stormwater engineering; developing innovative technical elective courses focused on Low Impact Development and Green Infrastructure; developing a certificate program focused on stormwater engineering through Cal Poly Pomona College of Professional and Global Education; hosting minority students sponsored by NSF and other sponsored programs in our scientific study project; and directly impacting social mobility of students from underrepresented groups while they are student.

We are grateful for the committee's attention and support for this scientific study, which seeks an annual budget of approximately \$200K from the ULAR WASC throughout its duration. This amount represents merely half a percent of the watershed's annual budget, highlighting the substantial return on investment.



CalPolyPomona

California State Polytechnic University, Pomona • 3801 West Temple Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768
909.869.2488 • Fax 909.869.4342 • www.cpp.edu

**Civil Engineering
College of Engineering**

Thank you for considering the community benefits and broader impacts of this scientific study project.

Best regards,

Mehrad Kamalzare, Ph.D., P.E., M.ASCE,
Associate Professor
Department of Civil Engineering
3801 W. Temple Ave., Pomona, CA 91768
Cal Poly Pomona | Phone: (909) 869-4908

Ali Sharbat, Ph.D., P.E., M.ASCE,
Professor
Department of Civil Engineering
3801 W. Temple Ave., Pomona, CA 91768
Cal Poly Pomona | Phone: (909) 869-2175



Public Comment Form

Name*: Stephanie Campbell Organization*: California State Parks

Email*: Stephanie.Campbell@parks.ca.gov Phone*: 626-298-2281

Meeting: ULAR WASC 4/3/3034 Date: 4/2/2024

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Comments

I will provide verbal comments at the the appropriate time during the meeting tomorrow



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**Office of the Dean
College of Engineering**

April 2, 2024

From: Alan Fuchs, PhD
Associate Dean
College of Engineering
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
3801 West Temple Ave, Pomona, CA 91768

To: Upper Los Angeles River (ULAR) Watershed Area Steering Committee

Dear Members of the ULAR Watershed Area Steering Committee,

I am Dr. Alan Fuchs, serving as the Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development in the College of Engineering at Cal Poly Pomona. I am writing this letter to provide insights regarding the community investment benefits and broader impacts of the proposed Scientific Study entitled "Identifying Best Practices for Maintaining Stormwater Drywells," led by Cal Poly Pomona. We are in full support of these efforts by our Cal Poly Pomona team.

Our mission at the College of Engineering at Cal Poly Pomona is to "prepare students for industry and advanced studies by implementing an inclusive polytechnic philosophy through collaborative teamwork, innovation, entrepreneurship and professional integrity." We are recognized as a Minority Serving Institution (MSI) and a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), and we have been continuously ranked very high for "Social Mobility" among higher education colleges and universities in California because of our impact on our students' socio-economic status in the community.

Our faculty at the College of Engineering have brought a consortium of scientists, consultants, and experts from all over the country, and collaboratively have submitted this proposal. The proposal is well-crafted and has significant merit and also broader impacts on development of work-force for the local surface-water management industry. I would like to ask the ULAR Watershed Area Steering Committee to consider this scientific study for funding.

Sincerely,

Alan Fuchs, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Advancement, College of Engineering and
Professor of Chemical Engineering
Office: (909) 869-3335
Cell: (775) 560-9648
Email: afuchs@cpp.edu



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College of Engineering**

April 2, 2024

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California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
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Sincerely,

Alan Fuchs, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Advancement, College of Engineering and
Professor of Chemical Engineering
Office: (909) 869-3335
Cell: (775) 560-9648
Email: afuchs@cpp.edu



Public Comment Form

Name*: David Dolphin

Organization*: City of Alhambra

Email*: ddolphin@cityofalhambra.org

Phone*: (626) 300-1571

Meeting: ULAR WASC

Date: 4/3/2024

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Comments

The City of Alhambra respectfully requests the ULAR WASC to consider including the Green Street Demonstration Project in the current SIP. The project is the first of its kind within the City and will provide residents an opportunity to explore and experience green infrastructure in their community. After being unsuccessful at our first attempt to receive funding, the City returned this round with over 50% of leveraged funds and additional community support. Moreover, the City elected to save municipal funds as a contingency to prevent the need for a project modification request for additional funding from the ULAR WASC. The City is willing to revise our funding request to successfully complete the ULAR SIP within guidelines, including but not limited to adjusting the funding schedule, funding for design or construction only or funding half the request.

This year each and every WASC will be faced with the daunting task of selecting new projects and/or existing project modification requests to fund the SIP. Although there are great projects to choose from, there is limited funds available. The City of Alhambra would like to encourage ULAR WASC members to carefully adopt a policy for funding PMR programs while contemplating its implications for future funding of new and existing projects. Currently, funding is not available for any new projects if PMR projects are fully funded. We suggest the ULAR WASC explore the various scenarios to fund the SIP including partial funding of PMRs and new projects if possible or a requirement for alternative funding exploration before requesting additional funds. If not, new projects especially from smaller cities will have little to no chance of moving forward. Thank you Madame Chair and ULAR WASC members for your consideration.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Ben Oswald Organization*: Los Angeles Resident

Email*: ben@benoswald.com Phone*: 3233592414

Meeting: Save Elephant Hill – ULAR WASC Date: 4/1/2024

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Comments

Addressing the stormwater runoff in Elephant Hills is an important step in becoming a better environmental stewards of the land we've developed. Just accross collis, in the monterey hills condo development, there is an extensive (and very ugly) storm water drainage system.

Why don't the other residents have their storm water managed? Instead there is muck, sand and dirt in our streets.

Today I walked accross the whole MRCA property, near the Pullman entrance there is literally flowing water a good 50 yards from the edge of the pavement. Along this water flow, I observed a non-native plant, Wand Mullein (verbascum), of which, after 20 years of walking Elephant Hills, I have never seen this plant anywhere else, clearly it only lives where there is extensive water, which surely should be managed.

All this water could be refed into our aquifers with proper management. I urge you to partner with the MRCA and take action to benefit our often underserved community.

Thank You



Public Comment Form

Name*: Kelsey Jessup Organization*: The Nature Conservancy
Email*: kelsey.jessup@tnc.org Phone*: 650-248-8878
Meeting: Upper LA River WASC 4/3/24 Date: 4/2/2024

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Comments

I would like to provide public comment during item #6, public comment, in support of the Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project.

My comments: Thank you to the WASC for considering the Bowtie Wetland Demonstration Project for funding. We realize you have a difficult task ahead of you with so many projects that need funding. I would like to remind you of the robust support we have received for this project, including 12 support letters from municipalities, nonprofits, and community organizations. Multiple people also called in to the February 7th WASC meeting in support of our project. This included 16 public comments from local school children. For example, Dante said "I am 14 years old and my school is directly behind the Bowtie Demonstration Project. I support the Nature Conservancy's proposal and I'm very excited for the new park proposal because it will provide habitat for animals and it will be fun to go and play in." Another community member and director of LA River State Parks Partners said, "The Project will provide multiple benefits for both residents and wildlife, including improved water quality, increased tree canopy and native habitat, and educational opportunities for people of all ages. By combining ecological value with unique opportunities for community access and engagement, TNC's Los Angeles River Habitat Enhancement Project at the Bowtie is precisely the type of transformative, multi-benefit project we hope to see at our LA River State Parks. And so we are in full support of complete funding for the Project."

We did not ask folks to join again today since they support many projects and every meeting they attend is additional burden. Thus, we hope you can recall the comments they have made in the



Public Comment Form

Name*: Maggie Gardner

Organization*: OurWaterLA

Email*: maggie@lawaterkeeper.org

Phone*: (310) 651-3360

Meeting: ULAR WASC

Date: 4/3/2024

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Comments

Please see attached letter (Resubmitted from last week with some minor edits)



Date: March 20, 2024

To: Upper Los Angeles River WASC Committee Members
cc: SCWP Staff, Watershed Coordinator

From: OWLA Core Team (Heal the Bay, LAANE, LA Waterkeeper, Nature for All, Pacoima Beautiful, SCOPE, The Nature Conservancy and TreePeople)

RE: Input on Project Prioritization for SCWP SIP

The task before you is to consider the prioritization of projects for funding in this round for the 2024-2025 SIP. **OWLA strongly recommends** that you approve projects that include strong remarks for water quality and water supply and that:

- utilize vegetated nature-based solutions,
- clearly demonstrate a strong community engagement plan and process took place,
- include a significant community investment element,
- provide benefits directly to and, as applicable, are located in a disadvantaged community, and
- promote green jobs.

We recognize that the ULAR WASC has an especially difficult task this year with the high volume of project modification requests with increased funding asks alongside their already full Round 5 application cohort. As you consider projects, OWLA has identified the following projects as exemplars and have elaborated on what elements have made them stand out to us. We would like to see as many of these funded as possible given your budgetary constraints.

1. Bowtie Demonstration Project

- a. **Extensive community engagement** that included working with partners on the ground for community outreach in English and Spanish, hosting events and workshops, regularly attending four monthly Neighborhood Council meetings, and compensated listening sessions with a tribe,
- b. **Creation and restoration of riparian habitat and wetlands** with more than 50% of the site being established with native species,
- c. Within a **DAC census block group** and efforts to identify how the project can support monolingual Spanish-speaking and unhoused community members with community-based partners, and
- d. **Quality labor standards** under Proposition 68 including prevailing wage.

2. Sun Valley Green Neighborhood Infrastructure Project

- a. Demonstration of **listening to community priorities** and incorporating those priorities into the project,
- b. **Located in a DAC** that faces **historic flooding issues**,
- c. **Water supply capture** of 189.9 ac-ft per year, and
- d. Anticipated to be covered under a **City of LA Project Labor Agreement**.

3. **Green Street Demonstration Project on Main Street**

- a. Provides **water supply benefits + ecosystem water supply benefits**,
- b. **Creation of nearly 1 acre of new habitat** (58,000 square feet of native plants),
- c. Located within a **DAC**, and
- d. Inclusion of **ADA accessible ramps and crosswalks**.

4. **Osborne Street Stormwater Capture Green Street Project**

- a. **Extensive community engagement** including 20+ outreach events and **DAC specific outreach**,
- b. Crosses through a **DAC and SDAC**,
- c. **Decrease of 3 acres of impervious surface** and more than 4500 native plants and 250 trees planted, and
- d. **Water supply capture** of 96 ac-ft per year.

When OWLA reviews projects, it considers several different categories:

- Location (within/outside a DAC)
- Does the project address an actual need of an underserved community?
- Anti-displacement measures
- Community support and engagement
- Water quality and water supply
- Public health, community investments, and multiple benefits
- Nature-based solutions
- Green jobs
- Cost and leveraged funding

We have summarized some of our observations across these categories to highlight the considerations we make and the concerns we have to help WASC members as they review projects. We hope these observations can also inform project developers and the upcoming visioning process occurring at the ROC.

OWLA wants to see better representations of meaningful community engagement to ensure projects are responsive to community needs and priorities, especially for projects located in and claiming to serve disadvantaged communities. Projects should seek to involve—if not collaborate with and empower—community members that are and will be impacted by the proposed project through an iterative process of actively soliciting and incorporating input.

- The strongest examples were projects in which there were partnerships with community-based and/or nonprofit organizations, such as the Bowtie Demonstration Project and Finkbiner Park Stormwater Capture Project. These CBO/NGO partnerships realized strategies such as supporting youth councils, conducting surveys with wide reach and synthesized analyses, engaging tribal members, multiple community events, and metrics-based outreach plans.
- While project applicants listed various activities like presentations, community meetings, or tabling events, we would like to see more details about who was engaged, how many people, and how they were engaged (ex. receiving information, filling out passive feedback forms, engaging in active discussion, voting on project elements).
- Another key detail must be whether and how community input was synthesized and incorporated into the project. For example, the Osborne Street Stormwater Capture Green Street Project incorporated safer transportation and green space benefits based on feedback from engagement activities.

- Another concern was a few projects that had only one touchpoint with community members and other stakeholders when outreach/engagement should be an iterative process.
- We also want to flag projects that claim to provide DAC benefits yet explicitly state having not done any DAC outreach/engagement. This reiterates a concern we had with the CSMB WASC's Imperial Highway Green Infrastructure Project in the last round.

OWLA has always held vegetated nature-based solutions as a cornerstone of our priorities for the SCWP because of their potential to provide a number of community benefits while also contributing to water quality and water supply. We are concerned with the number of projects we are seeing that are replacing impervious surfaces with permeable pavers, rather than with natural materials. This type of project further cements our commitment to seeing more nuanced nature-based solutions scoring metrics. We will always prefer to see some impervious surface removal, even if it is replaced with permeable pavers, to none at all. However, permeable pavers do not provide the same multiple benefits to people, wildlife, and ecosystems that native plants, amended soil, or mulch can provide such as habitat and reduced heat island effect. Similarly, we are very much concerned with the conversion to artificial turf. These surfaces may be slightly more permeable than concrete, but they can increase heat island effect and can have troubling environmental impacts such as contributing to microplastic pollution.

Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations. We look forward to continuing our engagement with this committee and the watershed coordinators to ensure a better water future for the region.

Sincerely,

OurWaterLA

OurWaterLA is a diverse coalition of community leaders and organizations from across Los Angeles County united to create a strong water future for Los Angeles. Our goal is to secure clean, safe, affordable and reliable water for drinking, recreation and commerce now and for the future. We have a deep commitment to uphold the trust that voters had in us when passing this measure and that projects which achieve Safe Clean Water Program objectives of water quality, water supply, nature-based solutions and community investments are prioritized.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Elva Yanez

Organization*: Save Elephant Hill

Email*: ekyanez2017@gmail.com

Phone*: 323.397.1554

Meeting: Public Comment: ULAR WASC 4/3/24

Date: 4/2/2024

☒ 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. All public comments will become part of the official record.

Please complete this form and email to 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

Save Elephant Hill urges the Upper LA River Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) to include our application for Technical Resources Program funding in its Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) submitted to the SCWP Regional Oversight Committee.

Our application is one of first community-driven applications to come before to the WASC Committee in the six years since voters approved Measure W. Our application seeks resources to explore stormwater improvements to address runoff during heavy rains on the Elephant Hill Open Space Area which is managed by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA).

Our application is supported by El Sereno residents, small community groups and regional environmental organizations, including for example: Anahuacalmecac; Barrio Action; California Native Plant Society; Coyotl + Macehualli; El Sereno Historical Society; El Sereno Organizing Committee; Heroes of Elephant Hill; LA County Natural History Museum; LA Neighborhood Land Trust; Northeast Trees; Synchrony; Test Plot - Elephant Hill; and The Nature Conservancy among others.

Given the impact of stormwater runoff on the project site and surrounding neighborhoods, the significant support for the proposed application demonstrated by residents and community groups, and the commitment of the County to community-driven stormwater improvement projects, we would greatly appreciate the WASC's support of our application. Thank you.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Kamren Curiel

Organization*: Save Elephant Hill

Email*: kamrencita@gmail.com

Phone*: 213-880-3206

Meeting: April 3, April 18 or May 1

Date: 4/3/2024

☒ 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.

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Comments

Hi there,

I'm writing in regards to "Save Elephant Hill-ULAR WASC." As a resident living below Elephant Hill, I have seen all the rainwater that flows down it for weeks after rain. This is a great opportunity for it to be captured and retained, not only because rainwater is a valuable resource but because it causes damage to our streets and carries bacteria and toxins into our storm drains and onto then the ocean. Rainwater also makes its way into the backyards of many surrounding homes also causing damage. Save Elephant Hill is a trusted partner of El Sereno residents, MRCA and the City of LA; its leadership has solid experience with stormwater issues. This proposal is an example of a community-led, multi-benefit project that can be a model for other SCWP projects.

Thank you,

Kamren Curiel



Public Comment Form

Name*: David Iniguez Organization*: TestPlot, Friends of Elephant Hill

Email*: d4iniguez@gmail.com Phone*: 323 719-3767

Meeting: Save Elephant Hill ULAR WASC Date: 4/4/2024

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

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Comments

Save Elephant Hill ULAR WASC

As a current resident of El Sereno and dailiy visitor to Elephant Hill, I see the need to capture rainwater flow as much as possible for our community and especially for Elephant Hill, one of just a few open and green spaces in North East LA. The rainwater flow is a valuable resource to this natural area and could be better used by retaining it and filtering the water to mitigate bacteria and toxin runoff into our backyards and surrounding homes.

I would like to see a study happen where improvements are identified to potentially make the five acres managed by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) creating a plan to capture runoff water, and also retention/filtration solution methods. I also feel we can connect current Elephant Hill communtiy partners for water useage as Test plot has created a native plant area on the east side of the EH green space. By saving water and also being creative we could also potentially create new opportunities for urban forestry and gardening.