



Rio Hondo Watershed Area Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

Prepared for the Rio Hondo Watershed Area Steering Committee
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List of Acronyms

CBOs	Community-Based Organizations
EWMP	Enhanced Watershed Management Program
GLAC	Greater Los Angeles County
IRWM	Integrated Regional Water Management
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (Permit)
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
SCWP	Safe, Clean Water Program
TMDLs	Total Maximum Daily Loads
WASC	Watershed Area Steering Committee
WHAM	Measures W, H, A, and M in Los Angeles County
WMP	Watershed Management Program

Safe, Clean Water Program

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Land Acknowledgement

The Watershed Coordinator team acknowledges the Gabrielino/Tongva peoples as the traditional land caretakers of Tonvaangar (Los Angeles Basin, Southern Channel Islands). Historic villages in or near the Rio Hondo Watershed area include Akuranga, Aleupkinga, Comicranga, Guichi, Hahamonga, Houtnga, Juyubit, Shevaanga, Sibanga, Toviseanga. We pay our respects to Honuukvetam (Ancestors), 'Ahihirom (Elders), and 'eyoohiinkem (our relatives/relations) past, present, and emerging.

Sources:

Greene, Sean and Curwen Thomas. *Mapping the Tongva Villages of L.A.'s Past*. Los Angeles: LA Times.com, 2019.

Mapping Indigenous LA, Los Angeles, CA. (Website)

Tongvapeople.org (Website)



Foreword to the 2024 Revision

This update to the Rio Hondo Watershed Area SOEP is critical because of the attention given to the operational progress of the Safe Clean Water Program during the past year. Of particular importance is the March 19, 2024 Board of Supervisors Motion by Supervisors Lindsey Horvath and Hilda Solis. This Motion is entitled “Progress and Adaptive Management of the Safe Clean Water Program.” The Motion contains a brief history of the Program and an overview of some issues encountered during implementation of the Program and how the proposed adaptive management will address several of these issues. The Motion also discusses several reviews of the Program, including a March 2024 report submitted to the Board by the Director of Public Works. This report summarizes the status of the Program and includes a series of recommendations for accelerating Program and project delivery to meet Program Goals.

This Motion directed the District to report back in 90 days with a progress report and a timeline for completing the 15 items, with a target date no later than June 2025. One of the directions to Public Works is for “ongoing communication and consultation with the Watershed Area Steering Committees and ROC in the development of new policies and programs.” At least nine (9) other directions will impact the operations of the WASC. One will be “used to measure achievement of Program Goals, guide watershed planning, and inform project development, solicitation, and evaluation efforts.”

In addition, the Motion directed the District to work with County Counsel to prepare specific amendments to the Safe Clean Water Program Ordinance and requests the Regional Oversight Committee to provide further recommendations to the Board to improve the efficacy and accelerate project delivery of the SCWP by the end of 2024.

In response to the Board Motion, the Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator team proposes to further build on its reviews of funded, proposed, and potential regional projects to demonstrate how the WASC can help strengthen other proposed comprehensive watershed planning efforts by focusing on opportunities for future projects. The Coordinator Team has also been researching how to work better with school districts and individual schools as well as improvements to community and tribal outreach, workforce development, and O&M for constructed infrastructure projects. Since new infrastructure project proposals will not be reviewed this year, much of the WASC’s work will focus on Project Modification Reporting, Technical Resources Project (TRP) applications, and Scientific Study Proposals. The Watershed Coordinator Team will review these reports, applications, and proposals, and provide evaluations to the WASC. (See **Appendix A** for March 19, 2024 Board of Supervisors Motion and June 20, 2024 Safe, Clean Water Program 90-Day Report Back)



1. Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of the Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP) is to establish a framework for implementing the Watershed Coordinator role within the Rio Hondo Watershed, as well as a framework for the WASC to provide oversight of the coordinator program and evaluate the performance of the Watershed Coordinator Team. In this fourth iteration of the SOEP, the Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator Team briefly discusses the context of the SOEP and presents an overview and description of the Watershed and an updated section on connecting with interested parties/stakeholders in the Watershed Area. This is followed by a discussion of lessons learned during the first three years of implementation, including the need to foster the ability to develop projects among multiple parties or jurisdictions. This sets up a framework for a set of outreach and engagement strategies, along with proposed metrics, an overview of evolving collaboration opportunities, and the team's current vision for the outreach and engagement program.

This 2024 revision to the SOEP describes the actions the Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator Team is planning to take to respond to the March 19, 2024 Motion of the Board of Supervisors and to encourage the involvement of stakeholders across the spectrum – from community members to elected officials – in collaborative implementation of the Safe, Clean Water Program. The Watershed Coordinator Team has already begun addressing engagement of tribal groups and direct communication with two tribal organizations – The Sacred Places Institute (SPI) and Grey

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Snow Professional Services. The Plan is designed to provide transparency and to be a dynamic, working guidance document that will be updated with lessons learned during Program implementation to help us better understand the needs of the Watershed Area and to refine methodologies used in pursuit of ongoing Program effectiveness and success in achieving SCWP goals.

Context of the SOEP

The primary context for development of the SOEP is Chapter 16 of the Flood Control District Code adopted as Measure W by a positive vote of 69.45% of the electorate on November 13, 2018. Section 16.02 of the code says:

“This ordinance is adopted to achieve the following purpose and directs that the provisions hereof be interpreted in order to:

A. Impose a Special Parcel Tax upon parcels of property within the boundaries of the District at the rate of two and one-half (2.5) cents per square foot of Impermeable Area, except as exempted, to be used for the purposes set forth herein.

B. Provide funding for Programs and Projects to increase Stormwater and Urban Runoff capture and reduce Stormwater and Urban Runoff pollution in the District, including Projects and Programs providing a Water Supply Benefit, Water Quality Benefit, and Community Investment Benefit.”

The second major context is Chapter 18 of the Flood Control District Code, the “Safe, Clean Water



The San Gabriel Mountains seen from Monrovia.

Program Implementation Ordinance.” Section 18.02 contains additional definitions that apply to implementation of the Ordinance. The purpose of this Chapter of the Code is “to establish additional criteria and procedures related to implementation of the Los Angeles Region Safe, Clean Water Program described in Chapter 16 of this code.” Section 18.04 is especially relevant to the SOEP because it specifies that “the Los Angeles Region Safe, Clean Water Program shall be implemented consistent with the following goals:

A. Improve water quality and contribute to attainment of water-quality requirements.



- B. Increase drought preparedness by capturing more Stormwater and/or Urban Runoff to store, clean, reuse, and/or recharge groundwater basins.*
- C. Improve public health by preventing and cleaning up contaminated water, increasing access to open space, providing additional recreational opportunities, and helping communities mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change through activities such as increasing shade and green space.*
- D. Leverage other funding sources to maximize SCW Program Goals.*
- E. Invest in infrastructure that provides multiple benefits.*
- F. Prioritize Nature-Based Solutions.*
- G. Provide a spectrum of project sizes from neighborhood to regional scales.*
- H. Encourage innovation and adoption of new technologies and practices.*
- I. Invest in independent scientific research.*
- J. Provide DAC Benefits, including Regional Program infrastructure investments, that are not less than one hundred and ten percent (110%) of the ratio of the DAC population to the total population in each Watershed Area.*
- K. Provide Regional Program infrastructure funds benefitting each Municipality in proportion to the funds generated within their jurisdiction, after accounting for allocation of the one hundred and ten percent (110%) return to DACs, to the extent feasible.*
- L. Implement an iterative planning and evaluation process to ensure adaptive management.*
- M. Promote green jobs and career pathways.*
- N. Ensure ongoing operations and maintenance for Projects.*

The third major context for this update to the SOEP is the March 19, 2024 Board of Supervisors Motion entitled, “Progress and Adaptive Management of the Safe, Clean Water Program.” As noted in the Foreword to this SOEP, the contents of this Motion describe several measures to be undertaken this year as part of the adaptive management process to accelerate the Program and project delivery to better meet Program goals. These measures are intended to address several issues with the Program that were identified in Program reviews that were conducted during past years. The Motion states that “while much has been accomplished to date, it is time to move the SCWP into the next level of strategic implementation.” In other words, the SOEP and WASC operations need to focus on strategic planning.



As mentioned above there are 15 tasks to be completed by June, 2025 specified in the directions to the Department of Public Works. Several of these will directly impact the work of the WASC. One of the measures directs the Department to maintain “ongoing communication and consultation with the Watershed Area Steering Committees and ROC in the development of new policies and programs.” Watershed planning is receiving special attention, and the County’s Watershed Planning Consultant Team will meet with the WASC at least three (3) times concerning the Watershed Plan they will develop for the Rio Hondo Watershed Area. They will probably also consult several times with the Watershed Coordinator team; Watershed Coordinators have been highlighted as having an important role in implementation of watershed planning and other efforts as the SCWP moves forward with this adaptive management task.

Regional Program Implementation

Section 18.07.D.3.c says that the duties and responsibilities of Watershed Coordinator(s) center around connecting potential applicants with technical resources and building inclusion and meaningful engagement in pursuit of SCW Program Goals and shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- (1) *Work with Technical Assistance Teams to bring resources to potential Infrastructure Program Project Applicants;*
- (2) *Work with Municipalities and Stakeholders to identify and develop Project concepts that may be elevated to the Watershed Area Steering Committees and Technical Assistance Teams to assist with development of Feasibility Studies;*



- (3) *Identify and help leverage and secure additional funding sources for Regional Projects and Programs;*
- (4) *Engage Municipalities, community groups, and other watershed Stakeholders to ensure diverse perspectives are included in planning and implementation of the Regional Program;*
- (5) *Conduct community outreach to diverse communities, with an emphasis on disadvantaged communities;*
- (6) *Provide leadership in community outreach efforts related to watershed planning;*
- (7) *Facilitate collaborative decision-making between private and public entities to develop and implement actions that best address community priorities;*
- (8) *Integrate community, Municipality, and regional priorities through partnerships and extensive networks;*
- (9) *Organize public outreach events included in SIPs, such as workshops, demonstrations, community forums and restoration activities, to educate Stakeholders on stormwater-related topics;*
- (10) *Serve as non-voting members of the Watershed Area Steering Committees for the respective Watershed Areas; and*
- (11) *Collaborate with all other Watershed Coordinators and the District to help ensure consistency in implementation and to inform each other of effective efforts, outreach, and communication approaches, including sharing best practices and resources.*

The Watershed Coordinator team notes that numerous subsections of Section 18 of the Implementation Ordinance, together with Chapter 16 of the Flood Control District Act, indicate that the strategies in the SOEP and the decisions of the WASC must balance between the diverse and sometimes competing goals and requirements of the Safe, Clean Water Program. To the extent feasible, the strategies and actions outlined in Section 5 of this SOEP represent an appropriate balance of the perspectives of members of the WASC and the Watershed Coordinator's current understanding of the needs of the Watershed Area.

Regional Program implementation will be greatly influenced by completion of the 15 tasks assigned to the District. It will be further influenced by implementation of the Boards' direction to the Regional Oversight Committee "to provide further recommendations to the Board to improve the efficiency and accelerate project delivery of the SCWP by the end of 2024." It will also be influenced by the decision to pause one year in accepting Infrastructure Project (IP) applications and to instead focus on Project Modification Requests (PMRs), Technical Resource Program (TRP) applications, and Scientific Studies.

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The upcoming changes to the Regional Program will be substantial and the Strategic Outreach and Implementation Plan needs to be significantly modified to help the WASC contribute to the development of the proposed watershed planning program that is described in the Motion as an overarching watershed planning effort that will inform future recommended investments. The Watershed Coordinator Team envisions its efforts in the 2024-2025 program year being focused on:

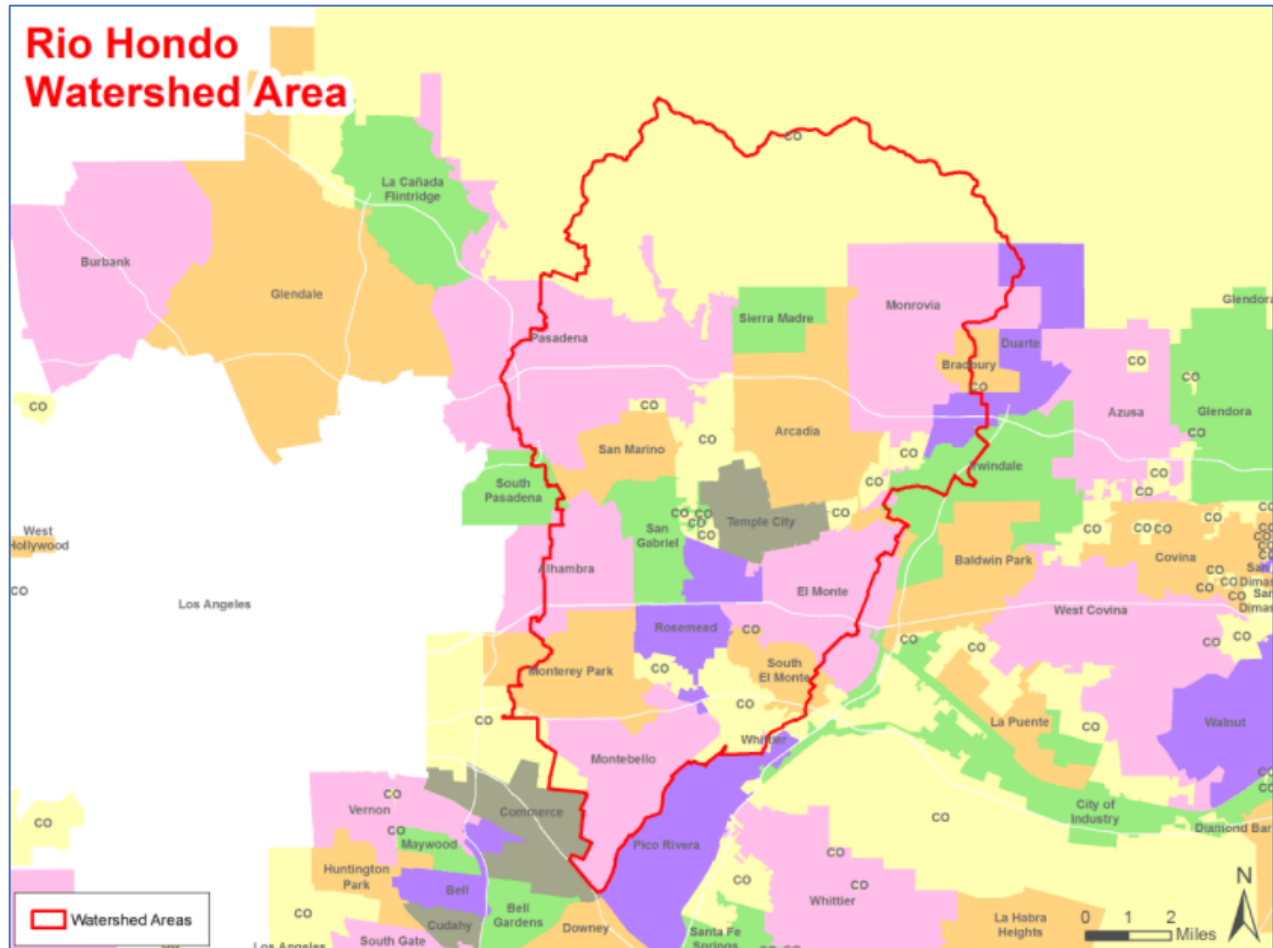
- Watershed opportunity planning;
- Monitoring of completed projects toward meeting related program goals;
- Improvement of community engagement processes, including strategies to better engage small cities, tribal interests, CBOs, and others who have been less involved or under-represented;
- Strategies and best practices for engaging school campuses in including stormwater harvesting projects that help achieve schoolyard transformation, greening and cooling, and other benefits in concert with the water supply, water quality, and multi-benefit goals of the Program; and
- Development and implementation of workforce development program focused on the needs of the watershed and meeting SCWP program goals.



2. Watershed Area Description

Physical Characteristics

This section is intended to provide an overview of the physical characteristics of the Watershed Area.



The Rio Hondo Watershed Area encompasses 132.25 square miles of Los Angeles County, with a local relief of approximately 5,500 feet from its high point of approximately 5,700 feet in elevation in the Angeles National Forest just south of Mount Wilson near the north central edge of the area down to an elevation of approximately 150 feet at the southern tip of the area just north of I-5 in Montebello.

The northern tier of cities, including Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Arcadia, Monrovia, Bradbury, and Duarte are either entirely or partly in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains. From the toe of the foothills, the Valley floor gently slopes south/southeasterly toward the Merced Hills, the Montebello Hills, and the Rio Hondo. This portion of the Watershed Area includes the valley floor

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portions of Pasadena, Arcadia, Monrovia, and Duarte, plus San Marino, San Gabriel, Temple City, and Rosemead, as well as portions of Irwindale, El Monte, South El Monte, Monterey Park, Alhambra and South Pasadena, and several unincorporated communities. The southern hills include portions of the unincorporated County, Montebello, and Monterey Park. South of the hills is another gentle gradient plain that includes portions of Montebello, Monterey Park, and unincorporated community of East Los Angeles within the Watershed Area.

Many parks and golf courses are scattered across the Watershed Area. A list of these facilities is included in the SOEP as **Appendix B**. The parks are areas that will continue to be assessed for the potential to be improved and for potential future opportunities for the development of multi-benefit projects. The Watershed Coordinator Team frequently asks, “What is your favorite park and why?” during outreach and engagement events. Some community members have strong feelings of connection with the parks in their neighborhoods, and this has proved to be one of the lines of discussion that most consistently garners responses from community members visiting the Team’s tabling events.

The “Emerald Necklace – Forest to the Ocean Vision Plan” developed by Amigos de los Rios and the Conservation Fund in 2005 also contributes to the landscape of the Rio Hondo Watershed Area. The Emerald Necklace Vision started with a case study that involved the Cities of El Monte, South El Monte, Baldwin Park, and Irwindale. According to the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) website, “The Emerald Necklace is a 17-mile-long network of existing and future parks, greenways, and trails located along the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel River between Peck Road Water Conservation Park to the north and Whittier Narrows Recreation Area to the south.” The Vision builds on the 1930 Olmsted-Bartholomew Plan for Los Angeles and is intended to make Southern California a better place to live, work, and play.



Cascade Park, Courtesy of City of Monterey Park

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Groundwater is critical to the Rio Hondo Watershed Area. Most of the Watershed Area is underlain by the Main San Gabriel Basin, which is subject to the jurisdiction of the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster – the agency charged with administering adjudicated water rights and managing groundwater resources within its portion of the Watershed Area. The surface area of the Main San Gabriel basin is approximately 167 square miles. A separate basin, the Raymond Basin, underlies the northwesterly portion of the San Gabriel Valley. The Raymond Basin is bounded on the north by the San Gabriel Mountains, on the west by the San Rafael Hills, and separated from the Main San Gabriel Basin on the Southeast by the Raymond fault. The surface area of the Raymond Basin is about 41 square miles. The description from an article entitled, “The History of the Raymond Basin Adjudication” states, “The Raymond Basin is like a massive bowl of sand and gravel that is filled up by the flows of the San Gabriel Mountains and by rainfall from throughout the watershed that seeps slowly into the ground. The rich alluvial soils in the foothills are like a sponge soaking up rainfall and percolating it into the aquifer.” (Brick, 2012.) The basin lies under much of the City of Pasadena and the unincorporated area of Altadena, as well as portions of Arcadia and Sierra Madre. The area overlying the Basin is largely urbanized. As a result of the first of such groundwater rights legal actions, the Raymond Basin was initially adjudicated in 1944. The 1974 modification of the adjudication allows parties to the adjudication credit for spreading of canyon diversions in spreading grounds in the vicinity of the Arroyo Seco, Eaton Wash, and Santa Anita Creek Canyon. A 1984 modification of the adjudication established the Raymond Basin Management Board as the Watermaster for the Raymond Basin.

The southern portion of the Watershed Area is underlain by the northern portion of the large Central Basin, which underlies approximately 227 square miles, including most of Montebello. It is covered by a Water Master Service Area, which includes an administrative body (the Water Replenishment District of Southern California) and the Central Basin Water Basin Water Rights Panel, the decision-making body composed of representatives of municipal and private water purveyors.

Water is largely provided by capture and infiltration of rainwater over the groundwater basins, and discharges from the San Gabriel Mountains. The mountain discharges enter a series of washes after passing through debris basins to remove debris and sediment. These washes include the Rubio Wash, the Eaton Wash, the Arcadia Wash, the Santa Anita Wash, and the Sawpit Wash, all of which transport surface flows to the Rio Hondo. The Rio Hondo flows into the Los Angeles River which ultimately discharges through Long Beach to the Pacific Ocean. Other waterbodies/hydrologic features include Legg Lake (at Whittier Narrows), Peck Road Water Conservation Park, the and the Alhambra Wash, which originates in San Marino rather than in the San Gabriel Mountains or foothills.

The Rio Hondo Watershed Area is also served by the San Gabriel Valley Water Authority, which coordinates and oversees the cleanup of polluted groundwater. There are 32 active groundwater treatment plants within the San Gabriel Basin, including EPA Superfund sites. A few EPA Superfund Site areas are within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area. To manage the areas and the cleanup more efficiently, EPA divided the four San Gabriel Valley Superfund sites into sections called operable

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units, or OUs. The OUs that relate to the Watershed Area are referred to by EPA as Area 1 and Area 3. (See **Appendix C** for descriptions of OUs.)

Special Landscape Feature

The Rio Hondo Watershed Area is bordered by, and contains a portion of, the San Gabriel Mountains to the north, with a high watershed area elevation of approximately 5,700 feet just south of Mt. Wilson. The Angeles National Forest is a significant protected upland area that is partly in the Watershed Area. This relationship with the mountains and Angeles Natural Forest is part of geographic diversity in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area that most of the members of the Watershed Area Steering Committee commented upon during the Watershed Coordinator's interviews with them prior to the writing of the original SOEP. The area is subject to the Wilderness Act of 1964, which was enacted to preserve wild, open space public lands.



Large campuses or managed parcels in Rio Hondo Watershed Area include:

- California Institute of Technology (Pasadena) (124 acres)
- City of Hope National Medical Center (116-acre Specific Plan approved in 2018)
- East Los Angeles College (82 acres)
- El Monte Airport (103 acres)
- Methodist Hospital of Southern California (122 acres)
- Montebello Country Club (120 acres)
- Pasadena City College (Pasadena) (53 acres)
- Santa Anita Racetrack (320 acres)

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Social Characteristics

The Rio Hondo Watershed Area is an urban watershed area with 17 cities in part or wholly within its boundaries, along with portions of unincorporated Los Angeles County. The city jurisdictions include Alhambra, Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte, El Monte, Irwindale, Montebello, Monterey Park, Monrovia, Pasadena, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South El Monte, South Pasadena, and Temple City. Several of these cities are additionally located in the Upper Los Angeles River or Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Areas.

According to Safe, Clean Water Program 2020 Census Block Data the population for the Rio Hondo Watershed Area is estimated to be 743,666, with 245,047 residents living in disadvantaged communities (32.95%). According to US Census estimates, of the cities located in part or entirely within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area, 16 experienced population declines from 2020 to 2023, with only the City of Duarte experiencing population growth. The 16 cities with a decreasing population experienced an average population decline of approximately 4.25% over that 3-year period. Duarte's population grew from an estimated 21,723 to an estimated 23,131 – an approximately 6% increase. (Total population estimates for the cities within the Watershed Area

are shown in the Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Incorporated Places in California, April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023 from the U.S. Census Bureau. (See **Appendix D.**)



The unincorporated Los Angeles County Census Designated Places (CDPs) within the Watershed Area include Altadena, Kinneloa Mesa, East Pasadena, East San Gabriel, Mayflower Village, North El Monte, South Monrovia Island, South San Gabriel, San Pasqual, Northeast San Gabriel, and portions of East Los Angeles. (See Figure 1.)

FIGURE 1 – Census-designed places (unincorporated) shown in white.

(Watershed Area does not include unincorporated areas adjacent to or east of I-605)

(Map courtesy of Los Angeles Almanac at laalmanac.com.)

The cities of Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte, Monrovia, and Sierra Madre previously worked together with the County of Los Angeles and the Flood Control District as members of the Rio Hondo/San Gabriel River Water Quality Group. They developed an Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP) pursuant to the Los Angeles Regional Water Board's NPDES permit requirements. These cities formed a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) – the Rio Hondo/San Gabriel Rivers Joint Powers Authority - which meets on a regular basis to facilitate ongoing collaborative

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efforts that implement the group’s Watershed Management Program. The JPA hired a consultant team in 2023 for a 3-year contract to assist with program management.

Ten Cities in the Watershed Area, including Alhambra, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, South El Monte, South Pasadena, and Temple City are working together as members of the large Upper Los Angeles River EWMP Group.

The organization of the two WMP/EWMP groups predated the designation of Watershed Areas in Measure W. The result was that most of the cities in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area had partial allegiance to a watershed management group that is strongly influenced by cities in other WASCs. The work of these groups should be considered during implementation of the new watershed planning component of the Safe, Clean Water Program.

The original Rio Hondo/San Gabriel EWMP was modified by the Revised Enhanced Watershed Program (“rEWMP”) for the Rio Hondo/San Gabriel River Water Quality Group. It states in its Guiding Principles section that “the process was driven by the philosophy that each decision and outcome must be meaningful, measurable, and achievable” and that those metrics provide value in determining final outcomes. The Watershed Coordination team appreciates this approach and thinks it could be valuable in communicating SCWP Goals to area stakeholders.



As noted by many of the Rio Hondo WASC members interviewed, the Rio Hondo Watershed Area has a highly diverse social and economic structure. The wealthier neighborhoods are primarily, but not entirely, in the north, and the less affluent neighborhoods are primarily in the south. Four major disadvantaged community areas were defined in the Watershed Area and mapped by the Council for Watershed Health in 2016. In addition, the Council mapped several small areas that meet the state definition of disadvantaged community scattered across the northern

portion of the developed part of the Watershed Area.

The demographics of the area are also quite diverse. Of the 17 cities represented in whole or in part in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area, 10 have a primary spoken language other than English. From the 2023 SOEP revision to this 2024 revision, the distribution of primary languages has remained the same, with the percentages changing slightly. According to data collected via U.S.

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Census and Neighborhood Scout, Chinese¹ is the primary spoken language in six (6) of the Rio Hondo Watershed Area cities – Alhambra, Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, and Temple City. Spanish is the dominant spoken language in four (4) cities: the eastern cities of El Monte, Irwindale, and South El Monte, and the southern city of Montebello. English is the dominant language in the seven (7) cities of Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte, Monrovia, Pasadena, Sierra Madre, and South Pasadena. Diversity is one of the strengths of the area, and meeting the needs of the diverse communities within the Watershed Area in terms of engagement and outreach is one of the challenges that faces the Watershed Coordinator Team. The Team has made connections with community-based organizations that serve some of the Mandarin- and Cantonese-speaking and Spanish-speaking communities within the area and is able to reach out to these CBOs for guidance, as appropriate. The Coordinators continue to work to develop these relationships and to provide resources for as many community stakeholders as possible. (Please see **Appendix E** for Languages Spoken in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area.)

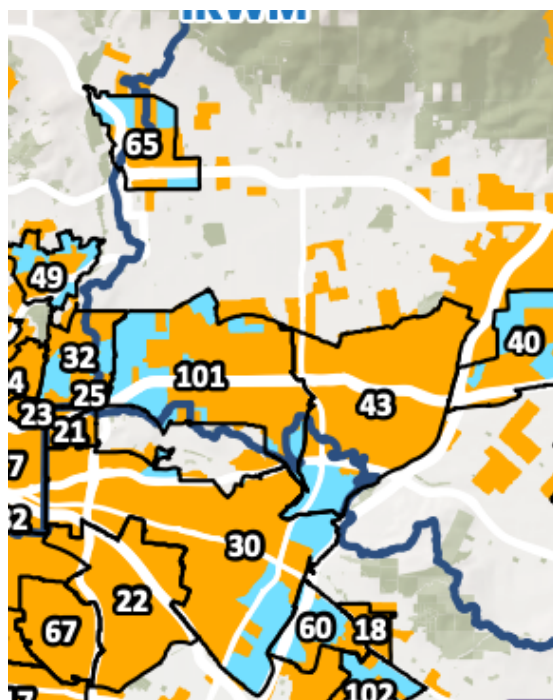


Figure 2. Disadvantaged Community Areas within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area

Portion of Disadvantaged Communities map (designed for the Council for Watershed Health)

3. Organizing for Impact

¹ Note: The term “Chinese” is used by the U.S. Census and its related products. Mandarin and Cantonese share the same written language, although the spoken languages are different. Data to distinguish between Mandarin- and Cantonese-speaking communities in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area are not currently available.

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Focusing on organizing for impact is especially important this year. If the many recommended changes to the Program that have been made in various Program reviews and in the March 19, 2024 Board of Supervisors Motion are realized, the operations of Watershed Area Steering Committees and other governance committees of the Program could be substantially altered. In order to make informed comments to the County's watershed planning consultant team, the Regional Oversight Committee and the Board of Supervisors, the members of the WASC, including the Watershed Coordinator Team, need to be well prepared.

Therefore, the Watershed Coordinator Team is preparing to modify its outreach and engagement strategy in this version of the SOEP and is planning a series of individual meetings with WASC members similar to the interviews conducted soon after the Coordinator Team was onboarded in June of 2021. However, this time the interviews will relate to the recommendations made in the March 19, 2024 Board of Supervisors Motion and by others who have reviewed the program during the past year. Following the interviews, a summary report will be prepared and submitted to the WASC. Additional action steps for the Coordinator Team may be developed from this engagement. The interviews conducted in 2021 helped the Watershed Coordinator Team learn more about the watershed area and develop a successful outreach and engagement program, but like the Safe, Clean Water Program as a whole, it is time to move the Rio Hondo Outreach and Engagement Program and the operations of the WASC to the next level of strategic implementation.

Interested Party Mapping

The interested party list is an important tool for organizing for impact. It is a "living document" that is updated regularly. It is meant to track contacts and relationships the Team has made and to guide future outreach as individuals and organizations become known to the Team. The list of interested parties includes Community-Based Organizations, Environmental Stewardship Organizations, Tribal Organizations, City Councilmembers, City and County Government Departments, Councils of Governments, State and Federal Agencies, Water Purveyors, Educational Institutions, School Districts, and individuals who have been identified as active within the area. The Team is working to keep the list of municipal representatives current and reflective of municipal elections held during the past program year. The interested party list will continue to expand as contacts and outreach activities lead to other potential interested parties. In 2023, the Team added workforce development as a category of interested parties. Last July the Team recently hosted representatives of an existing workforce development program as speakers during a monthly meeting of the SCWP Watershed Coordinators. In addition, representatives from the County's upcoming workforce development program briefly presented an update on that program.

As of this 2024 revision, the SOEP interested party list of community-based organizations and other NGOs remains substantially consistent with the original list. However, we continue to update

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and build the list during our outreach efforts as we make connections with community members in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area. The Team has continued to connect with members of CBOs that work actively in the area. A primary outreach and engagement goal for this program year is to find opportunities to work with our CBO contacts in ways that both move SCWP program goals forward and benefit the CBOs and the communities they serve. To maintain the privacy of community members with whom the Team has connected, community member information is maintained in-house rather than as an appendix to this public-facing SOEP.

Early this program year, a focus will be given to strengthening four (4) elements of the Interested Party List. To help the team work better with disadvantaged communities, schools, tribal interests, and workforce development, a special effort will be made to improve a list of individuals and organizations active and/or interested in these areas.

Please see **Appendix F** for the current list of potential Interested Parties.

Getting and Staying in Touch

The Coordinator Team seeks to inform contacts within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area about Safe, Clean Water Program activities as well as other activities/programs/grant opportunities that may be of interest to stakeholders. A SCWP Watershed Coordinator Engagement Events calendar, was developed and is being maintained by the Council for Watershed Health through its Redesign:LA Initiative. Coordinators update the calendar with outreach and engagement meetings and events. WASC meetings and other SCWP program events are also posted to facilitate community engagement, since public comments are an important part of the evolution of the Safe, Clean Water Program.

A new Safe, Clean Water Program website was rolled out in early 2024. Each Watershed Area has its own page, and the Watershed Coordinators now have a presence, including photos, several paragraphs to introduce the public to their Coordinators, and contact information. At the time of this writing, several community members have reached out to the Coordinator Team via the website. It is hoped that the website will be an ongoing way for the community to connect with the Watershed Coordinators and to ultimately engage with the SCWP.

4. Lessons Learned

During the Watershed Coordinator Team's first three contract years the Team gained insight into which of the program elements are more difficult to implement. One Program area in which the Team identified a need for improvement is in the capacity for productive working relationships and collaboration across jurisdictions – in terms of Cities working effectively with each other and/or the County of Los Angeles, Cities and community-based organizations working together to conceive of and develop projects, and schools and municipalities working together for school-based projects. The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments has been quite helpful in

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addressing this needed improvement, but more direct work with municipalities, community-based organizations, and school districts is required.

It could also benefit future project proponents if the Program were to develop a methodology for City and community-based project applicants to engage with the County of Los Angeles/LACFCD. County-owned land and facilities can be found throughout the Rio Hondo Watershed Area. One project in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area was unable to get permission to continue with a project component that would have utilized land owned by the County of Los Angeles. While such collaboration is not always warranted there are some instances in which cross-jurisdictional collaboration would create a stronger project that achieved more SCWP goals. The Watershed Coordinator Team looks forward to helping with discussions to determine whether a pathway to working better together across municipal jurisdictions is feasible.

Cities and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) are important partners in the Safe, Clean Water Program. Cities that submit projects for SCWP funding are required to develop meaningful outreach and engagement programs that solicit input from community members at the earliest stages of project development and throughout the life of a project. Community-based organizations are well-positioned to reach the community members the cities need to reach. Cities' engagement efforts could benefit greatly from being able to engage CBOs in a consulting capacity, but the idea of providing compensation for CBO services is a newer paradigm. Municipalities establish their annual budgets in advance and must have them approved by their City Councils. City staff members may have little leeway to make expenditures that do not have prior approval.

The Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator Team first noted this issue in the 2022-2023 SOEP and continues to consider how to build capacity in this regard. One planned action item for 2024-25 is to develop and incorporate talking points on this matter into meetings with Watershed Area city staff members, Town Councils, and City Councils to emphasize the benefits to be gained by developing processes to hire CBOs. The Watershed Coordinator Team looks forward to helping municipalities put the structures in place to be able to better collaborate with local community-based organizations in a manner that acknowledges their expertise and includes compensation, where possible. Strong reciprocal relationships benefit the entire program.

There have been issues with school sites being able to overcome legal/administrative hurdles that would allow them to accept off-sites flows. A major concern for some school districts has been the potential liability if polluted water from adjacent streets were to reach the groundwater through infiltration facilities on school property. The Watershed Coordinator Team is working through the Watershed Coordinators' Schools and Stormwater Working Group to address this issue.

Additional lessons learned have been identified through the recently completed Metrics and Monitoring Study (MMS) conducted for the County Department of Public Works. This study was commissioned to develop recommendations for program-wide and project-level performance measures, methods, and monitoring criteria in response to lessons learned identified by the

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consultant team and recommendations of the Regional Oversight Committee. The intent of the MMS is to improve implementation of the SCWP Program without creating a significant burden on project applicants and/or program administrators. The proposed measures are designed to support:

- Project Development
- Municipal and Regional Planning
- Informed Decision-Making (WASCs, Adaptive Management of Program)

Initial implementation of the MMS recommendations will occur during the remainder of 2024 and the first half of 2025.



5. Strategies

This section builds on the previous sections to suggest a set of strategies to address five focus areas specified in the SOEP template provided to Watershed Coordinators, plus a new planning focus area. The first five areas are consistent with the initial SOEP and its 2022 revision. The 6th area was added in the 2023 update in the spirit of adaptive management. Two additional strategies have been added to the Plan this year in response to the March 2024 Board of Supervisors Motion:

1. Engage stakeholders, municipalities, community groups
2. Promote Technical Resource Projects and assist Technical Assistance Teams
3. Ensure diverse perspectives are shared with the District and WASCs

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4. Identify and promote the involvement of members of disadvantaged and underrepresented communities
5. Identify educational programming about watershed management, ecological, and community involvement
6. Implement an opportunities planning process to identify potential projects at various scales throughout the Watershed Area
7. Promote the development of school stormwater harvesting and greening Projects within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area
8. Promote the implementation of workforce development program components within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area

The Watershed Coordinator Team will focus on the strategies listed above to implement the fourth year of the Watershed Coordinator program. These strategies were principally based on consideration of the fourteen (14) goals of the SCW Program (goals A-N, see p. 2), the eleven (11) duties and responsibilities of the Watershed Coordinator specified in Chapter 18 of the Flood Control District Code (see p. 3), and the nine consolidated tasks in our contract with the District. The context of the Coordinator role is to provide support and advice to the WASC as a non-voting member of the Steering Committee, while developing a meaningful and implementable outreach and engagement program. Based on our experiences during the first three years of the Watershed Coordinator role, this limited number of strategies is appropriate and continues to be representative of the concept of the Watershed Coordinator position.

Strategies within the Context of the SCWP and the March 19, 2024 Board Motion

Before going into a detailed discussion on the specific strategies, it is necessary to put this section in the context of the SCWP, especially the programmatic structure and the likely availability of money. The Program receives approximately \$280 million per year, which varies from year-to-year based on the number of qualified exclusions requested and approved. If impervious areas are reduced in the Program area the taxable square footage will be reduced and the incoming funding stream adjusted accordingly.

Table 1 shows the approximate amount of funding estimated to be available for investment in the Regional Program (50% of total revenues received) based on last year's tax return estimates. Updated estimates are expected to become available in August of 2024. The adoption ordinance (Chapter 16 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code) specifies that at least 85% of the available Regional Program funds should be spent on Infrastructure Projects, up to 10% can be spent on Technical Assistance Projects (including the Watershed Coordinator), and up to 5% can be spent on scientific studies.

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Table 2 shows the estimated 2024-2025 Safe, Clean Water Program return to municipalities in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area, including the unincorporated County communities within the Area. Municipalities receive forty percent (40%) of the total parcel taxes received in proportion to the proportion of revenues collected within each municipality. The Program Ordinance describes eligible expenditures, and the Safe, Clean Water Program Implementation Ordinance specifies the functions that municipalities receiving SCWP funding must perform. The Ordinance also specifies that at least seventy percent (70%) of municipal program funds must be spent annually on eligible expenses related to projects or program implementation on or after November 6, 2018, including operations and maintenance (O&M) of projects built to comply with the MS4 Permit. Up to thirty percent (30%) may be spent on defined estimates of programs and maintenance of projects implemented before November 6, 2018.

Table 1: Regional Estimates

FY 24-25 Safe, Clean Water Program Projected Tax Totals

Central Santa Monica Bay	\$17.12M
Lower Los Angeles River	\$12.52M
Lower San Gabriel River	\$16.49M
North Santa Monica Bay	\$1.81M
Rio Hondo	\$11.46M
Santa Clara River	\$5.82M
South Santa Monica Bay	\$17.35M
Upper Los Angeles River	\$38.15M
Upper San Gabriel River	\$18.64M
REGIONAL TOTAL:	\$139.36M

Table 2: Local Return Estimates

Safe, Clean Water Program – Rio Hondo Watershed Area Local Tax Return Estimates ¹			
Municipality	Annual Local Return	5-Year Local Return	Fully or Partly in WA
Alhambra	\$0.86M	\$4,300,000	Partly (w/ULAR)
Arcadia	\$1.02M	\$5,100,000	Fully
Bradbury	\$0.05M	\$250,000	Partly (w/USGR)
Duarte	\$0.25M	\$1,250,000	Partly (w/USGR)
El Monte	\$1.09M	\$5,450,000	Partly (w/USGR)
Irwindale	\$0.43M	\$2,150,000	Partly (w/USGR)
Monrovia	\$0.52M	\$2,600,000	Partly (w/USGR)
Montebello	\$0.91M	\$4,550,000	Fully
Monterey Park	\$0.73M	\$3,650,000	Partly (w/ULAR)
Pasadena	\$1.54M	\$7,700,000	Partly (w/ULAR)
Rosemead	\$0.57M	\$2,850,000	Fully

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San Gabriel	\$0.45M	\$2,250,000	Fully
San Marino	\$0.23M	\$1,150,000	Fully
Sierra Madre	\$0.15M	\$750,000	Fully
South El Monte	\$0.45M	\$2,250,000	Partly (w/USGR)
South Pasadena	\$0.25M	\$1,250,000	Partly (w/ULAR)
Temple City	\$0.45M	\$2,250,000	Fully
Uninc. County	(fraction of \$11.18M)		Partly

¹ Based on **FY24-25 Safe Clean Water Projected Tax Totals, October 2023**. Updated tax return estimates are expected to be available in August 2024.

During contract year one, the Watershed Coordinator Team was asked to report to the WASC on the status of proposed and previously approved project applications. The Team reviewed proposed and approved Infrastructure Projects, Technical Resource Projects, and Scientific Studies in relation to each other. During that review, some potential duplications/conflicts were discovered. Throughout the second and third contract years the important work of evaluating projects in the various washes of the Rio Hondo Watershed in relation to each other continued. During year four of Strategic Outreach and Engagement, strategies need to be modified to emphasize key Watershed Area and Watershed Coordinator recommendations in the March 19, 2024 Board Motion. These are: watershed planning (including engagement with WASCs); improved engagement with small cities, tribal contacts, and others who have been less involved or underrepresented; design and implementation of workforce development programs; and strategies for engaging school campuses in implementing stormwater capture projects that help achieve schoolyard transformation, greening, cooling, and other benefits in concert with the water supply, water quality, and multi-benefit goals of the Program.

The Team's approach to reviewing projects (completed, approved, and proposed) will continue to consider existing regulatory standards, proposed amendments to those standards, and the unique characteristics of the Rio Hondo Watershed Area.

The Watershed Coordinator Team proposes to address the eight (8) identified strategies for outreach and engagement as follows:

Strategy 1. Engage stakeholders, municipalities, community groups.

- a. Continue to meet with municipal staff members to gain a better understanding of individuals and groups in or serving their jurisdictions that could help educate residents about the Safe, Clean Water Program and identify potential projects. The Watershed Team intends to work with San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) staff to plan additional joint educational events for City Managers, Public Works Directors,

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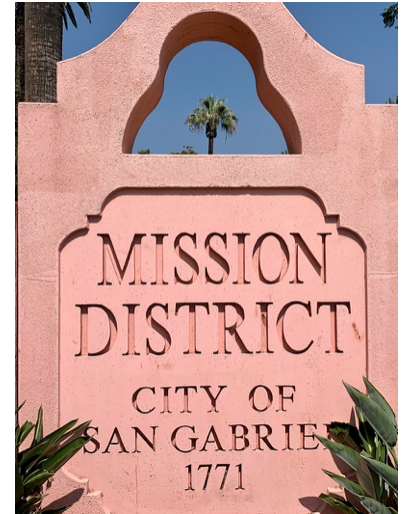


and the Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee (EENR Committee) and Water Policy Working Group.

- b. Work to deepen existing relationships and develop additional relationships with Watershed Area CBOs and other NGOs, especially those working in communities in which the dominant languages are Chinese and Spanish. The Watershed Coordinator Team seeks to facilitate collaborative outreach and engagement efforts throughout the Rio Hondo Watershed Area to educate community members and organizations about the SCWP and to find and support potential infrastructure and technical resource projects.
- c. Work with Watershed Area Cities to help them establish formal processes to work with CBOs in an outreach and engagement consulting capacity, as appropriate.
- d. Work with tribal organizations such as the Sacred Places Institute and Grey Snow Professional Services to establish a solid, ongoing engagement with the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation of the Greater Los Angeles Basin and Kizh Nations/Gabrieleño Band of Indians.

Strategy 2. Promote Technical Resource Projects and assist Technical Assistance Teams

- a. Solicit input from individuals and groups identified by City staff and City Councilmember offices and the CBOs and NGOs with which relationships have been established.
- b. Focus on neighborhoods in the major West San Gabriel Valley/10 Freeway disadvantaged community (dominant language – Chinese) and the Montebello portion of the East LA/Montebello/Pico Rivera Disadvantaged Community and unincorporated enclosures scattered throughout the Watershed Area (dominant language – Spanish)
- c. During communications and meetings with tribal organizations, ensure leadership is aware of opportunities available through the Technical Resource Program and offer assistance in applying for a TRP.



Strategy 3. Ensure diverse perspectives are shared with the District and the WASC

- a. Monitor and interpret comments made during Scoring Committee and Regional Oversight Committee meetings, and report on these comments during Watershed Coordinator updates to the WASC.

- b. Communicate regularly with municipal representatives, CBOs and other NGOs, and non-municipal project proponents and include summaries of their perspectives in Watershed Coordinator updates to the WASC.
- c. Communicate regularly with the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation and Kizh Nations/Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians and include summaries of their perspectives in Watershed Coordinator updates to the WASC.

Strategy 4. Identify and ensure the involvement of members of disadvantaged communities and under-represented communities.

- a. Continue research on the identified disadvantaged communities in the Watershed Area, focusing on the East LA/Montebello/Pico Rivera, Greater El Monte, and West San Gabriel Valley/10 Freeway disadvantaged communities, since they are the largest disadvantaged communities in the Watershed Area and are likely to include overlooked neighborhoods.
- b. Review the work completed by the WaterTalks program to help guide efforts to help ensure involvement of disadvantaged communities and underrepresented areas in Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Planning efforts.
- c. Assist CBOs, NGOs, and municipalities with identification of and outreach to members of disadvantaged communities and under-represented communities.



Strategy 5. Continue to Identify educational programming about watershed management, ecological, and community involvement.

- a. Work with managers of the Flood Control District educational programs as they are developed. These programs will involve public education programs, local workforce training, and school education and curriculum programs to partner with the District on watershed planning, ecological, and community involvement education program.

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- b. Work with selected CBOs in our network, NGOs operating in the Watershed Area, and others to facilitate collaborative educational efforts.
- c. Work with other watershed coordinators through monthly watershed coordinator meetings and regular meetings with coordinators in the adjacent Upper and Lower Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River Watershed Areas on joint development of educational programs.

Strategy 6. Continue Implementing an Opportunities Planning process to identify potential projects at various scales throughout the Watershed Area.

- a. Consult with member municipalities and the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments to identify potential regional projects along the six washes and two reaches of the Rio Hondo within the Watershed Area.
- b. Consult with municipalities and CBOs and NGOs to identify potential municipal projects throughout the Watershed Area.
- c. Consult with community-based organizations to identify potential small-scale community-based projects throughout the Watershed Area.
- d. Review draft Opportunities Plan Strategy with the WASC in January 2025.

Strategy 7. Promote the Development of School Stormwater Harvesting and Greening Projects within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area

- a) Consult with Amigos de los Rios concerning their experience with school greening projects such as Plymouth Elementary School in Monrovia.
- b) Consult with municipal jurisdictions with experience in working with individual schools and school districts on water capture and greening projects
- c) Consult with Watershed Coordinators' Schools and Stormwater Working Group and individual members of the Working Group about their experiences with schools and school districts.

Strategy 8. Promote the Implementation of Workforce Development Program components within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area

- a) Consult with County Department of Public Works and Consultants working to design and implement a workforce development program to support SCWP program goals.

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- b) Research County Department of Economic Development Opportunities efforts to develop workforce development programs
- c) Consult with Program Director, Apprenticeship Readiness Fund, Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO
- d) Consult with Grey Snow Management Solutions that conducts Workforce Development programs.

While implementing these strategies the Watershed Coordinator Team will make use of the series of questions suggested by the Stantec Regional Coordination team to help develop a suite of appropriate strategies. **(See Appendix G.)** The Watershed Coordinator Team will also regularly review the interview answers provided by WASC members in 2021 and during our upcoming 2024 discussions.



6. Identify Collaborative Efforts

The Watershed Coordinator Team will continue to work collaboratively with other Watershed Coordinators in the four adjacent Watershed Areas whenever possible. The Team has connected with the adjacent Lower LAR, Lower SGR, Upper LAR, and Upper SGR Watershed Areas and continues to look for opportunities to work together.

RWA has planned and hosted three of the regular monthly meetings of Watershed Coordinators (July 2021, July 2022, and July 2023), participated in all of the monthly meetings, participated in collaborative San Gabriel Valley coordinators activities, and attended events hosted by fellow Watershed Coordinators and others across the Program area. As SCWP Program implementation enters its fifth year, and the

Watershed Coordination program enters its fourth year, it has proven beneficial to develop as a larger team of Coordinators – with different strengths and areas of expertise – and be visible to the LA County water community.

The Watershed Coordinator Team is committed to enhancing its engagement and outreach with community members across the Rio Hondo Watershed Area. The Team will continue to look for opportunities to provide educational materials and to help prepare interested community members and stakeholders who might not have project experience to propose projects to the Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) for consideration. Supporting connections among

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the different stakeholder groups in the area is critical to being able to secure the consideration of diverse perspectives and connect interested parties to needed technical assistance.

Other areas of potential collaboration involve regional and Countywide programs. As noted in the March 12, 2024 report on the Safe, Clean Water Program to the Board of Supervisors by the Director of Public Works, the SCWP is aligned with the recently adopted Los Angeles County Water Plan. The Water Plan is scheduled for implementation as part of the Countywide Sustainability Plan. In addition, there is an active school greening effort across the area.

The Watershed Coordinator Team has participated in meetings of the Los Angeles Living Schoolyards Coalition and in tours of “greened” school facilities. Although the Coalition’s efforts are currently focused on schools within LAUSD, and the Rio Hondo Watershed Area does not have LAUSD schools within its boundaries, its actions will be informative and could assist with future work with school projects. The Watershed Coordinators’ Schools and Stormwater group hosted a tour of the Jeff Seymour Family Center in April, 2024. A Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator Team member participated and helped introduce the SCWP to community members in attendance, as did a fellow Coordinator from neighboring USGR Watershed, who helped organize the tour. Staff members from Amigos de los Rios led the tour of the facility, a de-commissioned elementary school in the City of El Monte that was re-imagined as a center for community members to gather, connect with local agencies for services, enjoy enhanced garden features, and enjoy recreation opportunities, including dirt biking. The Jeff Seymour Family Center stands as an example of the kind of creative, community-driven project that could be developed through SCWP.

Another project led by Amigos de los Rios in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area, the Plymouth Elementary School in the Monrovia School District, is virtually complete, with some O&M activities continuing. A Feasibility Study for the South El Monte High School that was developed under a FY 21-22 TRP was submitted for Year 5 IP funding consideration. It was approved for design, with construction funding in the future anticipated. The Watershed Coordinator Team will continue to monitor these school projects and programs and communicate with key staff, as appropriate.



View from City of Hope, Duarte

The Plymouth Elementary School project will become a key project of the Watershed Coordinators' Schools and Stormwater Working Group to help the SCWP better address school greening and water harvesting projects. A tour of the site is being planned, with a planned future workshop to share lessons learned from implementation of this project. The Team works to stay informed about efforts throughout the SCWP area to address water and

other environmental and community issues and will participate in relevant events.

7. Vision for Success for the Rio Hondo Outreach and Engagement Program

Long-Term Vision for Success: The Rio Hondo Outreach and Engagement Program will help the Rio Hondo WASC meet the Safe, Clean Water Program goals in a fair and inclusive manner.

Short-Term Vision for Success: During the fourth Coordination program year, the Watershed Coordinator Team will work to make significant progress implementing each of the strategies in the six strategic focus areas addressed in Section 5 of this SOEP.

Evaluation Criteria for Short-Term Implementation of Strategies in SOEP Section 5

<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Evaluation Criterion</u>
1.a.	At least four (4) check-ins with municipal staff contacts.
1.b.	At least four (4) check-ins with CBO and NGO representatives with which relationships have been established.
2.a.	Identification and/or development of at least two project concepts.
2.b.	Assistance provided to Technical Assistance Teams with TRPs

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- 3.a. Reporting on Scoring Committee and Regional Oversight Committee discussions re: proposed projects and report to WASC.
- 3.b. Presentation of solicited community input to the WASC during evaluation of submitted projects.
- 4.a. Reports on involvement of members of disadvantaged communities in at least two Watershed Coordinator updates.
- 4.b. Report on the implementation of the GLAC Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program in at least one Watershed Coordinator update.
- 5.a. Reports to WASC on Flood Control District educational programs as they become available.
- 5.b. Reports on joint development and implementation of educational and/or outreach and engagement programs with other Watershed Coordinators in at least two Watershed Coordinator updates.
- 6.a. The number and distribution of identified project opportunities in the Watershed Area.
- 6.b. WASC response to the Opportunities Summary.
- 7.a. Reports on status of school stormwater Harvesting and Greening Projects within Watershed Area in at least two WASC meetings.
- 7.b. Development of TRP applications for Feasibility Studies for Stormwater Harvesting and/or Greening Projects.
- 8.a. Reports on progress on implementation of workforce development program in at least two (2) WASC meetings.
- 8.b. Development of at least one workforce development project proposal during year.

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[San Gabriel Basin Groundwater Management and Remediation Plan](#), February 17, 2021.

[San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership 2021-2022 Annual Report](#)

[Tapping into Available Capacity in Existing Infrastructure to Create Water Supply and Water Quality Solutions](#). White Paper, Prepared for Las Virgenes MWD, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster, May 2018.

[UCLA, Mapping Indigenous LA Website](#)

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USEPA San Gabriel Valley Area 1 Superfund Site Community Involvement Plan (CIP)

USEPA Superfund Website for San Gabriel El Monte Project: www.epa.gov/superfund/sangabrielelmonite

Water Education for Latino Leaders (WELL) Website

Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) Website

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Whittier Narrows Golf Course



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Rio Hondo Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Members

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Visitor in Monrovia



Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan LIST OF APPENDICES

- APPENDIX A- 3-19-2024 Board of Supervisors Motion and Safe, Clean Water Program 90-Day Report Back
- APPENDIX B- Parks and Golf Courses in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area
- APPENDIX C- Operable Units (OUs) – Excerpt from EPA Superfund Site Fact Sheet [Note: This 2021 Fact Sheet is the most recent update]
- APPENDIX D- Total Rio Hondo City Population Estimates 2020-2023
- APPENDIX E- Languages Spoken in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area
- APPENDIX F- Interested Party Mapping
- APPENDIX G- SCWP Regional Coordination Suggested Questions List



Appendix A

3-19-2024 Board of Supervisors Motion and Safe, Clean Water Program 90-Day Report Back

REVISED MOTION BY SUPERVISORS LINDSEY P.

MARCH 19, 2024

HORVATH AND HILDA L. SOLIS

PROGRESS AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT OF THE SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

The Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP or Program) funds stormwater infrastructure projects and scientific studies that improve water quality, increase our local water supply, and provide community benefits including green spaces and parks, local jobs, and recreational opportunities. The Program cultivates regional and community partnerships and prioritizes investments in historically underserved communities. In November 2018, voters approved Measure W, a parcel tax to fund the Program, which – beginning in Fall 2020 – has provided nearly \$280 million per year for multi-benefit projects and programs. The Program was designed based on extensive and diverse stakeholder engagement and continues to leverage robust regional collaboration.

The first years of the SCWP focused on successfully establishing this complex program, establishing numerous sub-programs, governance committees, guidance documents, tools, and processes. To date, the SCWP has committed approximately \$514 million to 126 regional multi-benefit infrastructure projects and programs and has

MOTION

SOLIS	_____
MITCHELL	_____
HAHN	_____
BARGER	_____
HORVATH	_____

provided approximately \$446 million in direct funding to municipalities to undertake an additional 360 projects and activities. Together, these projects promise to provide nearly 60,000 acre-feet annually of additional stormwater capture.

In addition to early successes, the initial years of program implementation and investment have daylighted some important issues, some of which will require Board action to address, and others that can be addressed through policy and programmatic updates at the Flood Control District (District) level. Proposed adaptive management of the Program to address these issues is described below. For example, several of the projects for which funding has been allocated are experiencing significant cost increases due to inflation and challenges that have arisen during project development. This issue of cost overruns is sometimes exacerbated when a project that is yet to be designed receives funding for the estimated total costs of the design through construction phases, increasing the chance that costs or anticipated benefits may change as project development proceeds. Several Watershed Area Steering Committees have committed hundreds of millions of dollars of future funds to projects with high potential for water quality, water supply, and community benefits; however, these early project approvals have limited near-term investment funding, particularly in areas with the highest opportunity for water supply. Proposed remedies include process and guidance improvements to better facilitate proposals for distinct project phases and allowing for changes in costs or benefits to be better anticipated and therefore incorporated into overarching watershed planning efforts that will inform future recommended investments.

Several reviews of the Program — a performance audit commissioned by the

District, the July 25, 2023 “Accelerating Implementation of the Safe Clean Water Program” motion (Horvath) and report back, the recently completed Regional Oversight Committee Biennial Progress Report, and the Public Works Director’s March 2024 Report on Program status and plans — include recommendations for Program modifications and improvements.

In January of 2024, the SCWP Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) completed a SCWP Biennial Progress Report which includes several findings and recommendations. Findings include that the Program has been launched successfully, that watershed-specific needs and capabilities should be considered in planning, and that the Program needs to better quantify program success and progress towards goals. These findings resulted in a recommendation to expedite watershed planning with specific goals, metrics, and timelines associated for issues like water quality, water supply, community benefits, and disadvantaged community investments. The ROC also recommends that the District create processes to support collaborative planning and co-funding with other agencies and organizations, develop guidelines and criteria for different sized projects and distinct stages of development, and make strategic investments in workforce development programs.

This month, the Director of Public Works submitted to the Board a report that summarizes the status of the Program and includes a series of recommendations for accelerating Program and project delivery to meet Program Goals. Highlights of the report recommendations include:

- Establishing additional programmatic metrics and indicators of success
- Targeted planning to more strategically drive the Program towards desired

outcomes

- Improving and streamlining processes
- Increasing Public Works and District capacity to provide expanded services to municipalities in designing, building, and managing infrastructure projects
- Ramping up public engagement, education, and workforce development

The Director's Report parallels many of the ROC recommendations, with the highest priority being development and adoption of indicators and watershed plans. Other priorities include updating and developing new guidance, revisions to the Regional Program Scoring and Feasibility Study Guidelines and Transfer Agreements for different project phase applicants. The report also highlights updates that the District will make to valuable tools and data that are utilized by project developers and municipalities. Some actions in the Director's report require action by the Board while others can be completed at the District level. As such, the processes (e.g., public comment period, stakeholder engagement, etc.) for the different actions vary. Some actions, like the Ordinance changes called for in this motion, can happen quickly if Board approval is provided. Others, like the updates to and creation of guidance documents, require a comprehensive development and deployment strategy to ensure consistency across the many nuanced program elements. Many of the recommended program changes are already underway, and others are forthcoming.

The SCWP is ambitious, unprecedented, and complex. It cultivates sustained regional and community partnerships and prioritizes historically underserved communities, all while advancing multi-benefit stormwater initiatives to promote regional water resilience. It is the envy of all local and state governments facing the

challenge of sustainably managing water resources in an era of climate change. While much has been accomplished to date, it is time to move the SCWP into the next level of strategic implementation. To best accelerate the effective adaptive management of the SCWP and ensure the most strategic investments going forward, certain new efforts must be prioritized, while certain existing efforts must be modified so that they can proceed according to evolved information, best practices, and tools. Doing so is a critical aspect for advancing the recently adopted County Water Plan's vision of a shared, inclusive, regional path forward to sustainably and equitably achieve safe, clean, and reliable water resources for Los Angeles County.

IWE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct of the Department of Public Works to report back in 90 days with a progress report and timeline for completion of the items below, with a target date no later than June 2025 for completion of all the following:

1. Indicators and targets for the Program, to be developed with the Regional Oversight Committee, that can be used to measure achievement of Program Goals, guide watershed planning, and inform project development, solicitation, and evaluation efforts.
2. Precise metrics, updated definitions of Local Water Supply Benefit, Nature-Based Solutions, Disadvantaged Community Benefit, and Local Water Supply Benefit, dry- and wet-weather water quality, and scoring criteria that better align with the SCWP goals.
3. Watershed planning efforts, including data and gaps analysis, community needs assessment (including engagement with WASCs), and alignment with the plan

to capture 300,000 acre-feet per year of new stormwater by 2045.

4. Revised Regional Program application processes, feasibility study guidelines, and scoring criteria to account for additional performance indicators and distinct project phases. These revisions should include the required public processes and input from the governing bodies as appropriate.
5. Revised Regional Program Transfer Agreements to better align with distinct project phases like design, construction, and maintenance. Transfer Agreement revisions will be brought back to the Board for approval.
6. Updated or new guidance documents, tools, and information for governance bodies and project developers to facilitate achievement of performance indicators and targets.
7. Updated strategies for monitoring of completed projects towards meeting stated project goals and a regular update with cumulative findings on impacts, including any related recommendations for adaptive management of the program to maximize program outcomes.
8. Guidance and recommendations to WASCs for managing cost overruns and project modification requests in the context of watershed planning and constrained funding availability in certain watersheds.
9. An assessment of community engagement processes to date and how they could be improved upon, including strategies to better engage small cities, tribal interests, CBOs, and others who have been less involved or underrepresented.
10. An assessment of viability and potential responsibilities of a scientific or technical advisory committee for the SCWP, specifically for review and recommendations

for scientific studies.

11. An assessment of viability and a strategy to fund scientific studies that have Countywide significance without requiring approval of every WASC.
12. Collaboration with and funding of the Department of Economic Opportunity to design and implement Workforce Development program(s) to support SCWP program goals. Corresponding workforce requirements shall be integrated into Feasibility Study Guidelines, Project Modules, and Transfer Agreements.
13. District Public Education programs, including progress of Public Education and Community Engagement Grants Program and investments in school curricula.
14. A report on strategies and best practices for engaging school campuses in implementing stormwater capture projects that help achieve schoolyard transformation, greening, cooling, and other benefits in concert with the water supply, water quality, and multi-benefit goals of the Program. The report should also include best practices for integration of school projects with school curriculum such as those being developed and/or funded as part of the District Education Programs.
15. Ongoing communication and consultation with the Watershed Area Steering Committees and ROC in the development of new policies and programs.

WE, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the District to work with County Counsel to prepare amendments to the Safe Clean Water Program Ordinance to:

1. Amend Section 18.07 of the Safe, Clean Water Implementation Ordinance to authorize the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to

request proposals for new Projects, Project concepts, and scientific studies for inclusion in Stormwater Investments Plans on either an annual or biennial basis.

2. Amend Sections 18.07, 18.08 and 18.09 to change the frequency of progress and expenditure reporting from quarterly to semi-annually, and to clarify that certain District responsibilities are carried out by the Chief Engineer.

WE, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors request the Regional Oversight Committee to provide further recommendations to the Board to improve the efficacy and accelerate project delivery of the SCWP by the end of 2024.

WE, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors thank the members of the Regional Oversight Committee, Scoring Committee, and nine Watershed Area Steering Committees for their service during the first four years of the program and congratulate the newly appointed community leaders that will help to actively manage the program moving forward.

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LPH:ao



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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June 20, 2024

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **SWP-8**
10571-1-1-F

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Mark Pestrella, PE
Director of Public Works

BOARD MOTION OF MARCH 19, 2024, AGENDA ITEM 19 PROGRESS AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT OF THE SAFE, CLEAN WATER PROGRAM 90-DAY REPORT BACK

On March 19, 2024, the Board adopted a motion instructing Public Works to report back in 90 days on the progress and timeline for completion of the following 15 items related to the adaptive management of the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP). All 15 items are on schedule to be completed by June 2025 as directed.

Item 1: Indicators and Targets

Public Works recently completed a Metrics and Monitoring Study that developed recommendations for program-wide and project-level performance measures and monitoring criteria. Many of these performance measures (or metrics) as well as related population indicators (targets) are already being incorporated to guide watershed planning, inform project development and solicitation, and to evaluate achievement of the SCWP goals. Additional performance measures and population indicators will be incorporated into the program moving forward.

At the May and June Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) meetings, I introduced a set of these performance measures and related population indicators and discussed how these measures will help support ROC members in their oversight capacity.

Item 2: Align Metrics, Definitions, and Scoring Criteria with SCWP Goals

As described in Item 1, performance measures and population indicators are being incorporated to help further align program implementation with the SCWP goals. Each SCWP goal aligns with at least one performance measure.

Regional program scoring criteria are also being assessed and will continue to be assessed to align with the revised performance measures and population indicators during ongoing adaptive management. This alignment is consistent with the comments and recommendations made by the Scoring Committee in their Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 scoring memo.

Definitions of key terms, like those related to locally available water supply, community investment benefit, public access, etc. are on schedule to be refined in late 2024 as part of the framework for watershed planning, scoring, and other program elements, which will ensure shared understanding and consistency. Definitions and standards for nature-based solutions are currently the purview of the Blue-Ribbon Panel called for in the December 5, 2023, County Water Plan Board motion.

Item 3: Watershed Planning Progress

Public Works continues to lead watershed planning efforts across the region in alignment with the County Water Plan and has initiated watershed-specific planning efforts for the nine SCWP watershed areas. The watershed planning process will involve extensive engagement with the Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs), the ROC, municipalities, community groups, and other interested parties. A draft Community Strengths and Needs Assessment survey is being developed to pilot how to meaningfully incorporate community insights into the program and to supplement watershed planning efforts.

By November 2024, Public Works plans to have completed the initial watershed area plan framework, completed data compilation and gap analysis, and developed additional targets and population indicators for all nine watersheds. A complete initial watershed plan will be developed for one pilot watershed by March 2025, and initial watershed plans for all nine watersheds are expected to be completed by June 2025.

Item 4: Revised Regional Program Applications, Feasibility Study Guidelines, and Scoring

Significant effort has already been invested in revising the regional program application processes, guidelines, and scoring criteria in the first 5 years of the program. Public Works will further enhance the application and reporting functionality within the project portal by April 2025. These improvements will include creation of separate applications for each phase of a project (e.g., design, construction, and operations and maintenance), new post-construction monitoring criteria, and other tools and guidance.

Revisions to the feasibility study guidelines will reflect the performance measures and population indicators described above and will be informed by watershed planning efforts. The first set of such revisions will be made by April 2025 and will include a 30-day public comment period to allow input from interested parties.

Scoring criteria adjustments are in process, including those that will address cost inflation, load-based criteria for water quality, scaled scoring between dry-weather and wet-weather capacities, and cost-effectiveness for dry-weather projects. Initial adjustments to scoring criteria will be reviewed as part of the new feasibility study guidelines, completed by April 2025 as part of the project portal enhancement, and will be updated as new data becomes available.

Item 5: Revise Regional Program Transfer Agreements for Project Phases

Completion of a revised transfer agreement to better align with distinct project phases like design, construction, and maintenance is on track to meet the June 2025 deadline stipulated in the motion. These revisions will be presented to the Board for approval in 2025 and are anticipated to take effect for all projects and studies approved for funding in the FY 2026-27 Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP).

Item 6: Updated or New Guidance and Tools

As part of the ongoing adaptive management of the SCWP, Public Works has developed numerous guidance documents, user-friendly tools, and supplemental guidelines. These items include governance committee operating guidelines and handbooks, topic-specific interim guidance, the SCWP portal, and the geospatial data library that allows interactive planning across the region. Many of these documents were developed through robust engagement with interested parties and public comment processes, and some are updated routinely to continue to streamline processes and/or adapt to current regional needs.

By April 2025, additional guidance and tools will be developed through both the project module updates being completed in accordance with the new performance measures and population indicators described above, as well as through the watershed planning efforts discussed under Item 3.

Item 7: Updated Strategies for Monitoring Progress Toward Goals and Providing Updates

New post-construction performance monitoring and reporting came online in late 2023. These requirements and associated data will be adaptively reviewed, revised, and

incorporated as appropriate in conjunction with other efforts described in response to other items in this report.

Additionally, Public Works has implemented a comprehensive dashboard and mapping system that serves as a centralized platform to consolidate and analyze the data provided by infrastructure program developers through their reports. This visual representation of key Performance Measures and progress toward program goals, also allows for aggregating data from multiple projects across the region so that interested parties can obtain a holistic view of how each project is contributing to the program goals, informs decision making and strategy within different watershed areas, and supports program oversight by the ROC and the Board.

Regular updates on pertinent aspects related to project/program monitoring and overall adaptive management have also been incorporated into other regular ROC meetings.

Item 8: WASC Guidance for Enhanced Financial Oversight

Each year, Public Works offers guidance to WASCs during deliberations for pending SIPs. In the current fiscal year, guidance included general recommendations for managing cost overruns and project modification requests. By December 2024, Public Works will release the SIP programming guidelines for FY 2025-26 to provide more detailed guidance to the WASCs that will include caps on recommended funding being programmed in annual SIPs. The SIP programming guidelines will be updated annually thereafter to align with watershed planning and other adaptive management efforts.

Additionally, Public Works is increasing its efforts to lead regional collaborations that will support strategic regional investments through partnerships and leveraged resources and will engage with potential project developers to provide insight and oversight related to financial elements of collaborative projects.

Item 9: Assess Community Engagement Processes

Community engagement and local stakeholder education are integral components of the SCWP. The Watershed Coordinator (WC) program supports community engagement through educating project proponents and building capacity for SCWP involvement in each of the 9 watershed areas. To date, the WCs have hosted an estimated total of 888 events, resulting in more than 36,600 individual contacts. WCs have directly supported 77 funded projects in various capacities, including engagement about the projects and connection of project proponents with appropriate resources or community groups. A majority of the WCs also participate in a Tribal Allyship Working Group, which

is intended to support the adoption of best Tribal engagement practices across watersheds and are actively engaged in a working group related to schoolyard transformation and education. The Public Education and Community Engagement Grants Program described in Item 13 is anticipated to greatly amplify these efforts.

Water for LA, <http://waterforla.lacounty.gov>, continues to be a central hub for information about water in LA County and has regular and far-reaching campaigns about critical water issues and water resilience. The SCWP is featured on the Water for LA website, which also provides a link to the SCWP website that was recently revamped to be more user friendly and provide easy-to-access and up-to-date information about the SCWP (<http://www.safecleanwaterla.org>).

Item 10: Assess Need for Scientific or Technical Advisory Committee

Each year, Public Works utilizes technical experts to carry out peer review for scientific studies conducted by other entities. Once the peer reviews are completed, each one is shared with their respective WASCs for further assessment. Public Works is assessing the viability and potential responsibilities of a scientific and/or technical advisory committee for the SCWP to expand upon the current practices and will include recommendations/decisions.

Item 11: Assess Scientific Studies from a Countywide Perspective

In conjunction with the assessment described under Item 10, Public Works will evaluate viability and a strategy to fund scientific studies that have Countywide significance and would not be dependent on WASC timelines. In the interim, scientific study proponents that are interested in partnering with Public Works to implement regional studies that have Countywide significance are encouraged to begin engaging with Public Works as early as possible. Regional study partnership opportunities will be considered on a case-by-case basis and evaluated based on alignment with SCWP goals, funding needs, and available budget.

Item 12: Collaboration with the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) on Workforce Initiatives

DEO is working in collaboration with Public Works to develop a SCWP maintenance and operations worker training program to train approximately 150 individuals over the next 2 years. This collaborative approach will ensure that workforce development initiatives are tailored to meet the specific needs of the SCWP, while also addressing the employment and skill development needs of the community, including career pathways

that will ensure a sustainable workforce and maximize SCWP outcomes. The program will train approximately 150 individuals to prepare them for entry to mid-level maintenance and operational jobs to support SCWP-related projects. The training program will include full wrap-around services to help ensure successful long-term placement of entry level workers. These wrap-around services will support recruitment, placement, and hiring. To develop this program, DEO will build off of the success of the existing Preparing Los Angeles for County Employment Program in training and placing maintenance workers in County employment.

Additionally, DEO and Public Works will continue to strengthen collaboration and reporting on Local Hire Programs. SCWP projects that include building infrastructure are subject to the County's Community Workforce Agreement, which includes Local and Targeted Hiring goals. DEO and its network of 18 America's Job Centers of California support job seekers in completing the labor-approved Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3) pre-apprenticeship to prepare them for an apprenticeship with the building trades. The Apprenticeship Readiness Fund and other partners then help match these trainees with apprenticeships with contractors on these local hire projects, creating a win-win scenario for businesses and the community.

Item 13: Progress on District Education Programs

Criteria for Public Works' Public Education and Community Engagement Grants Program is in active development, and grants are anticipated to be distributed starting in late 2024. The program will advance SCWP's goals by supporting education and community engagement efforts and providing pathways for entry into the SCWP for groups that may have seen low participation in the past. The public will have two formal opportunities to provide input on the grants criteria and framework through two upcoming hybrid community meetings. Eligible organizations – nonprofits, tribes, public agencies, and educational institutions – will have an opportunity to apply for grant funding to support community-led project concept developments, host community meetings, develop related educational and engagement programs, and advance other eligible activities.

Items 9, 12, and 14 address other elements of the District Education Programs including workforce development and schools.

Item 14: Strategies for Engaging Schools in Stormwater Capture Projects

Public Works has recently completed a benchmarking white paper that looked at best practices in stormwater and watershed education, as well as the potential for intersection of school greening and curriculum. Public Works is assessing next steps for

supporting/enhancing existing school education programs and evaluating opportunities to align education with school greening as part of the infrastructure program. In addition, the WCs have established a school working group that is developing additional strategies to effectively involve schools and school districts in the SCWP.

Item 15: Engagement and Consultation with Governance Committees

Each year, Public Works administers and facilitates approximately 80 hybrid SCWP governance committee public meetings. As part of the ongoing adaptive management of the SCWP, Public Works, in partnership with the governance committees, has developed numerous policies and guidance documents to inform and support SCWP implementation as well as ongoing adaptive management. Measures to enhance communication are underway, including the development of a ROC charter to provide additional clarity on committee goals, roles, and responsibilities. Regular updates on adaptive management will continue to be provided at governance committee meetings, and the watershed planning process will include multiple direct engagements with the WASCs.

Related Items

In a separate but related matter, the motion instructed the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to work with County Counsel to prepare amendments to the SCWP ordinance to amend Section 18.07 of the SCWP implementation ordinance to authorize the Chief Engineer to request proposals for new projects, project concepts, and scientific studies for inclusion in SIPs on either an annual or biennial basis; amend Sections 18.07, 18.08, and 18.09 to change the frequency of progress and expenditure reporting from quarterly to semi-annually, and to clarify that certain County Flood Control District responsibilities are carried out by the Chief Engineer. The new ordinance language was introduced on May 7 and adopted by the Board on May 21, 2024.

As noted in the March 19, 2024, Statement of Proceedings, the Board also instructed Public Works to determine the feasibility of leveraging the County's recent storm emergency declarations to move the projects ahead and faster in terms of hiring, contracting, and procuring. This is consistent with Public Works' ongoing efforts to accelerate implementation and adaptive management. Public Works has already made organizational changes to better align with current SCWP needs and is developing an internal strategy to drive future efforts, including taking a leadership role in partnering with other entities, especially in the Municipal Program, to strategically develop aggregated regional projects and provide support with design, construction, and maintenance. All applicable contracting mechanisms are being evaluated, and potential leverage from

Each Supervisor
June 20, 2024
Page 8

recent emergency declarations is under consideration. Public Works has also attended and will continue to attend applicable events hosted by various professional organizations to further build relationships and offer services consistent with the strategy to accelerate implementation and adaptive management.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Deputy Director Adam Ariki at (626) 458-4012 or aaariki@pw.lacounty.gov.

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cc: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office



Appendix B

Parks and Golf Courses in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area

Parks and Golf Courses in the Rio Hondo Watershed – 2024 SOEP

Park	Jurisdiction
Acuna Park	Montebello
Alhambra Municipal Golf Course	Alhambra
Alhambra Park	Alhambra
Almansor Park	Alhambra
Altadena Golf Course	Altadena
Arcadia City Golf Course	Arcadia
Arcadia Regional Park and Santa Anita Golf Course	Arcadia
Ashiya Park	Montebello
Barnes Park	Monterey Park
Bonita Park	Arcadia
Cascades Park	Monterey Park
Central Park	Pasadena
Defenders Parkway	Pasadena
Duarte Sports Park	Duarte
Duarte Park	Duarte
Eaton-Blanche Park	Pasadena
Eaton Canyon Park	Unincorporated County
Eisenhower Memorial Park	Arcadia
Emery Park	Alhambra
Fletcher Park	El Monte
Jess Gonzalez Sports Park	Rosemead
Garvey Ranch Park	Monterey Park
Granada Park	Alhambra
Grant Park	Pasadena
Guess Park	Rosemead
Hamilton Park	Pasadena
Chet Holifield Park	Montebello
Lacy Park	San Marino
Lambert Park	El Monte
Lindarxa Park	Alhambra
Live Oak Park	Temple City
Vincent Lugo Park	San Gabriel
McKinley Park	Pasadena
Memorial Park	Pasadena
Memorial Park	Sierra Madre
Montebello City Park	Montebello
Montebello Country Club	Montebello
Monrovia Library Park	Monrovia

Monrovia Wilderness Preserve	Monrovia
Moore Park	Duarte
Newcastle Park	Arcadia
Northview Park	Duarte
Lucinda Garcia Park	Monrovia
Pioneer Park	El Monte
Grant Rea Park	Montebello
Recreation Park	Monrovia
Hugo Reid Park	Arcadia
Reggie Rodriguez Park	Montebello
Rosemead Park	Rosemead
San Gabriel Country Club	San Gabriel
Saybrook Park	East LA (South Montebello community)
Sequoia Park	Monterey Park
Sierra Vista Park	Monterey Park
Singer Park	Pasadena
Smith Park	San Gabriel
Story Park	Alhambra
Sally Tanner Park	Rosemead
Mary Van Dyke Park	El Monte
Washington Park	Pasadena
Whittier Narrows Golf Course	Rosemead
Whittier Narrows Recreation Area	South El Monte



Appendix C

Operable Units (OUs) –
Excerpt from EPA Superfund Site Fact Sheet
and
Excerpt from SGVWQA 2022-2023 Annual
Report



San Gabriel Valley Superfund Sites Progress Update

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency • Region 9 • San Francisco, CA • May 2021

San Gabriel Valley Groundwater Cleanup Continues

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues to make significant progress in our decades-long effort to clean up groundwater contamination in the San Gabriel Valley (SGV). EPA, along with the State of California and local agencies, is protecting the groundwater by removing toxic chemicals from contaminated portions of the aquifer.* This fact sheet describes cleanup progress at four Superfund sites within the SGV. The sites are called San Gabriel Valley Area 1, Area 2, Area 3, and Area 4.

CLEANUP HIGHLIGHTS SINCE 2002



More than 200 billion gallons of contaminated water have been treated, and more than 100,000 pounds of contaminants removed.



Through EPA legal work, the companies responsible by law to clean up the sites' contamination paid an estimated \$470 million for cleanup.



In 2019, EPA hosted the SGV Superfund Job Training Initiative, an environmental job readiness program. The program provided job training for 20 trainees living near the SGV Superfund sites.

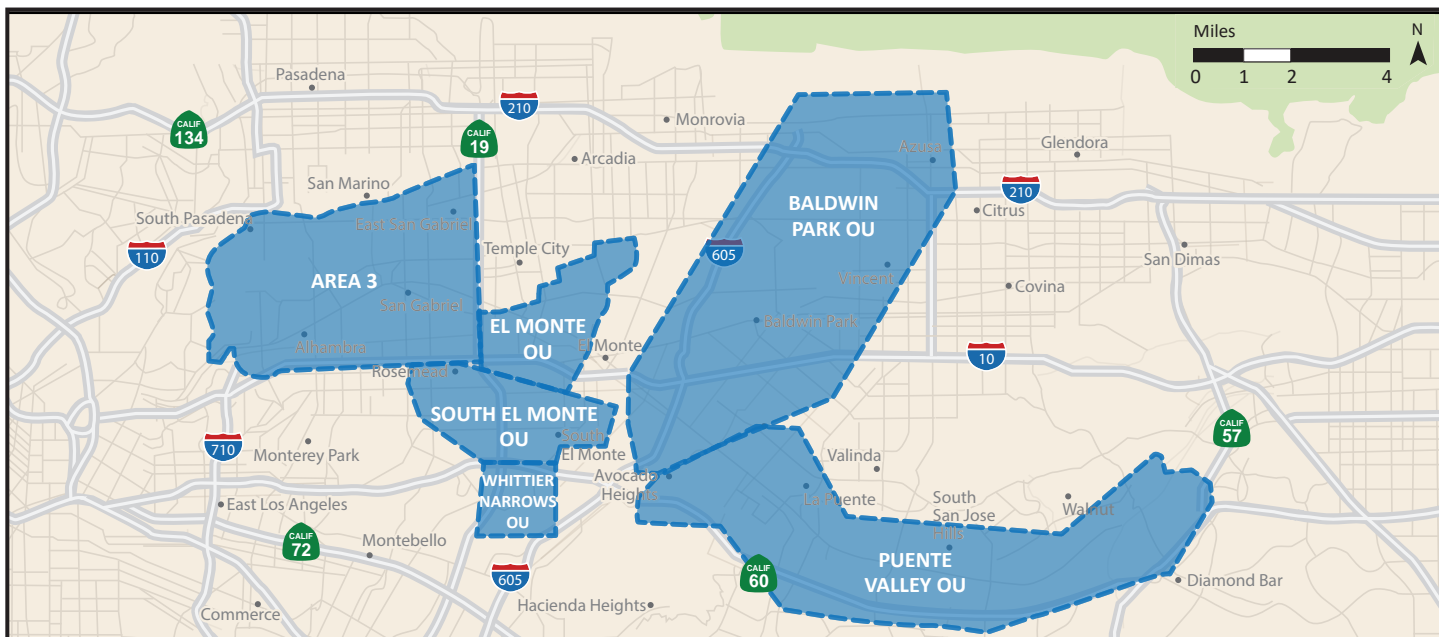
To manage the cleanup more easily, EPA split the four Superfund sites into smaller sections called “operable units” (OUs). There are six active OUs:

- Whittier Narrows OU, El Monte OU, South El Monte OU are in Area 1;
- Baldwin Park OU is in Area 2;
- Area 3 (no OUs in this area because EPA is completing the groundwater investigation); and
- Puente Valley OU is in Area 4. *See map below.*



The Valley's Drinking Water

The San Gabriel Basin Aquifer is the main source of drinking water for more than one million residents in the San Gabriel Valley. Water agencies test the area's drinking water wells regularly to ensure drinking water meets state and federal safe drinking water standards.



San Gabriel Valley Superfund sites (boundaries are approximate)

*An aquifer is an area below the ground that contains water.

HISTORY AND CLEANUP PROGRESS

Below is a brief history of the sites through key steps of the Superfund cleanup process. *More details on the status of the cleanup at each of the OUs is provided on pages 4 - 9.*

Discovery and Assessment

In 1979, the state required water providers to increase testing of drinking water supplies. The testing found multiple areas of contamination in the San Gabriel Valley's water supply. In 1984, EPA added four areas of the most contaminated groundwater to the Superfund program. After the sites were added, EPA began a multi-year effort to understand how the water got contaminated and where the contamination went.

What We Found

EPA found many solvents commonly used for degreasing industrial equipment—such as trichloroethylene (TCE) and perchloroethylene (PCE)—in the soil and groundwater. EPA also found the chemicals perchlorate, 1,2,3-trichloropropane (1,2,3 -TCP); N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA); 1,4 dioxane; and hexavalent chromium. *See page 3 for more information on the contaminants and sources.*

Ongoing Work

EPA regularly evaluates how its cleanups at each of the Superfund sites are working. Every five years, EPA does a more in-depth review called a Five-Year Review to see if the cleanup plans are working as designed. EPA did reviews for SGV Areas 1-3 from 2016-2017, and will be doing a review for Area 4 in 2021.



Selecting Cleanup Plans

From 1993 – 2000, EPA developed interim (immediate actions taken to address groundwater contamination) cleanup plans for most of the sites' contaminated groundwater. Since then EPA has ordered, or reached legal agreements with, the companies responsible for the contamination to clean up the sites.

Cleanup

In 2001, EPA began building the groundwater extraction and treatment systems needed to do the cleanup. There are 14 groundwater treatment systems that operate as part of the SGV Superfund cleanup:

- five in the Baldwin Park OU;
- four in the El Monte OU;
- four in the South El Monte OU; and
- one in the Whittier Narrows OU.

Two systems are being built in the Puente Valley OU, and a third is in the design phase.

Community Involvement

EPA involves the community throughout the Superfund process. These activities inform the community of cleanup work and include them in the decision-making process. The EPA Community Involvement Plan guides these activities and is based on research and interviews from community members and other stakeholders. In November 2018, EPA updated its Community Involvement Plans for the SGV Superfund sites. To see the plan, please visit the websites on page 4-9.

Who Pays?

Hundreds of businesses and companies contaminated over 30 square miles of groundwater in the sites. These Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) may also include individuals, trusts or other entities. These PRPs have paid, or are paying, for most of the cleanup costs, while both local water agencies and PRPs are operating the water treatment systems. EPA and the State of California have also paid for some cleanup costs. EPA oversees cleanup in all of the OUs except Whittier Narrows OU, which the State cleans up and pays for. The following state and local agencies also play important roles in the cleanup process:

- Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB);
- California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC);
- Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster; and
- San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority.



Water Quality Authority

ANNUAL ²⁰²²⁻²⁰²³ REPORT

San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority



Irwindale Spreading Basin



SCAN FOR
DIGITAL EDITION



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Record Rainfall Does Not Dampen Cleanup Efforts

The WQA coordinates groundwater cleanup across six operable units (OUs) in the San Gabriel Basin. These six areas are: Area Three Operable Unit (ATOU); Baldwin Park Operable Unit (BPOU); El Monte Operable Unit (EMOU); Puente Valley Operable Unit (PVOU); South El Monte Operable Unit (SEMOU); and Whittier Narrows Operable Unit (WNOU). With a year of unprecedented rainfall, which resulted in a rebound of groundwater elevations from near historic lows, cleanup progress continues.

PUENTE VALLEY OPERABLE UNIT

Treatment Plant Testing Continues

Construction activities on the intermediate zone remedy finished in early 2023. Startup testing activities began in 2023. Several components of the required amended water supply permit have been submitted for review to state regulators. Northrop Grumman continues to make tremendous gains in construction activities associated with the shallow zone south remedy. All infrastructure is in place with startup activities to commence in the next fiscal year. La Puente Valley County Water District will operate the intermediate zone remedy treatment plant and distribute the treated water to its customers.

As of June 30, 2023, other PVOU facilities including San Gabriel Valley Water Company Plant's B7 and B11 have treated more than 99,137 acre-feet of water and removed approximately 5,373 lbs. of VOCs.



Facility Tour for EPA Region 9 Administrator, Martha Guzman Aceves and Supervisor Hilda Solis

Carrier Makes Strides in Shallow Zone North Remedy

Carrier is responsible for the shallow zone north remedy and continues to make progress. Activities include the installation of additional monitoring wells to delineate and characterize the current extent of the groundwater contamination and the rehabilitation of existing extraction wells. It is anticipated that Carrier will start the Remedial Design of the shallow zone north remedy in 2024. WQA will continue to help facilitate and coordinate with state and federal agencies to ensure the shallow zone remediation stays on track.



*South Pasadena
Wilson Treatment Facility*

AREA THREE OPERABLE UNIT

Treatment is Enhanced

The city of South Pasadena continues to operate its Wilson Treatment Facility and began operation of its Graves Treatment Facility. The City of Alhambra continues to operate its water treatment facilities. USEPA is finishing an investigation on the extent of groundwater contamination for Area 3. A report on the investigation will be published in 2024.

As of June 30, 2023, the ATOU facilities have treated more than 56,912 acre-feet of water and removed approximately 2,527 lbs. of VOCs.



BALDWIN PARK OPERABLE UNIT

Enhancements Continue

The five treatment plants continue to operate. San Gabriel Valley Water Company received approval of a more efficient 3rd generation advanced oxidation treatment equipment utilizing ultra-violet (UV) light technology at its Baldwin Park Plant B6 and began the second phase of the project. The second phase will consist of constructing an additional treatment train to destroy 1,4-Dioxane and NDMA. The cost of the project was funded via Proposition 1 funds and WQA federal funding. The BPOU facilities have treated 1,065,344 acre-feet of water and removed approximately 126,614 lbs. of VOCs as of June 30, 2023.

EL MONTE OPERABLE UNIT

Variable Flow Directions Dictate Enhancements

As a result of increased groundwater elevation, the parties responsible for westside shallow zone remedy have constructed additional extraction wells to enhance containment of the contaminant plume and are working closely with USEPA to ensure compliance. Work is underway to design the required pipelines to convey the extracted water to the existing treatment facility. In addition, an EMOU stakeholder sub-group in conjunction with local regulators continues investigation activities to track the progress of site cleanup actions at known source properties within the OU. The City of El Monte continues to operate a series of wells and treatment facilities built with the assistance of WQA federal funds. The EMOU facilities have treated 81,675 acre-feet of water as of June 30, 2023, and removed approximately 2,823 lbs. of VOCs.

SOUTH EL MONTE OPERABLE UNIT

Expanded Treatment on the Horizon

As a result of WQA's Prop 1 Planning Grant, work to conduct expanded site investigation activities upgradient of the Whitmore Street Groundwater Remediation Facility (WSGRF), WQA was awarded a subsequent Prop 1 Implementation Grant to enhance current extraction in and around the WSGRF. In addition, WQA in partnership with the LA Regional Water Quality Control Board was awarded a separate Prop 1 Planning Grant to conduct regional site investigations within the SEMOU at 12 high priority properties. WQA has completed the investigation at the 11 sites. As of June 30, 2023, the SEMOU facilities have treated more than 264,375 acre-feet and removed approximately 32,033 lbs. of VOCs.

WHITTIER NARROWS OPERABLE UNIT

State Makes Progress

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) continues progress on the required infrastructure to return the WNOU intermediate zone remedy back into a potable water supply project. DTSC, with the assistance of USEPA, secured additional funding for the construction of a required booster station that will ensure the remedy meets all extraction requirements. The WNOU facilities have treated 95,898 acre-feet of water and removed approximately 3,511 lbs. of VOCs as of June 30, 2023.



Keeping 32 treatment plants operational while also investigating new sites and addressing emerging contaminants, requires a dedicated staff of experts in their field. The San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority is sincerely grateful for the efforts of all the operators and staff members who ensure progress in the ongoing Basin cleanup.

Thank you to all!





Appendix D

Total Populations Estimates for Rio Hondo Watershed Area Cities 2020-2023

Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Incorporated Places in California: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023						
Geographic Area	April 1, 2020 Estimates Base	Population Estimate (as of July 1)				% Change 2020-2023 ¹
		2020	2021	2022	2023	
Alhambra city, California	82,868	82,652	81,261	80,323	79,776	-4%
Arcadia city, California	56,665	56,502	55,497	54,731	54,157	-5%
Bradbury city, California	925	922	901	892	892	-4%
Duarte city, California	21,723	21,666	21,242	21,723	23,131	+6%
El Monte city, California	109,445	109,087	106,841	105,052	103,794	-5%
Irwindale city, California	1,466	1,464	1,453	1,443	1,426	-3%
Monrovia city, California	37,938	38,003	37,636	37,110	36,768	-3%
Montebello city, California	62,629	62,433	61,175	60,356	60,015	-4%
Monterey Park city, California	61,110	60,898	59,596	58,580	57,877	-5%
Pasadena city, California	138,723	138,462	136,290	134,492	133,560	-4%
Rosemead city, California	51,187	51,043	50,121	49,544	49,305	-4%
San Gabriel city, California	39,574	39,464	38,667	38,067	37,732	-5%
San Marino city, California	12,508	12,474	12,254	12,088	11,977	-4%
Sierra Madre city, California	11,274	11,236	11,007	10,833	10,713	-5%
South El Monte city, California	19,561	19,553	19,419	19,254	19,032	-3%
South Pasadena city, California	26,941	26,845	26,269	25,860	25,623	-5%
Temple City city, California	36,480	36,383	35,726	35,213	34,854	-5%
Vintage 2023 data products are associated with Data Management System projects P-6000042, P-7501659, and P-7527355. The U.S. Census Bureau reviewed these data products for unauthorized disclosure of confidential information and approved the disclosure avoidance practices applied to this release (CBDRB-FY24-0085).						
Note: The estimates are based on the 2020 Census and reflect changes to the April 1, 2020 population due to the Count Question Resolution and Post-Census Group Quarters Review programs, geographic program revisions, and the application of disclosure avoidance to protect confidentiality. For population estimates methodology statements, see https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/technical-documentation/methodology.html . All geographic boundaries for the 2023 population estimates series are as of January 1, 2023. For updates on Legal Boundary Change/Annexation Data, see https://www.census.gov/geographies/reference-files/time-series/geo/bas/annex.html . Additional information on these localities can be found in the Geographic Boundary Change Notes (see https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/technical-documentation/boundary-change-notes.html).						
Suggested Citation: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Incorporated Places in California: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023 (SUB-IP-EST2023-POP-06) Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division Release Date: May 2024						

¹ Percentage Change column added by Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator Team



Appendix E

Languages Spoken in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area

Rio Hondo Watershed Area - Estimate of Languages Spoken by % (Data Reflect Total Populations of Cities Wholly or Partly within the Watershed Area) 2024 Update																			
Languages	Total Avg	Alhambra	Arcadia	Bradbury	Duarte	El Monte	Irwindale	Montebello	Monterey Park	Monrovia	Pasadena	Rosemead	San Gabriel	San Marino	Sierra Madre	South El Monte	South Pasadena	Temple City	Uninc County Communities
English	41.6%	30.7%	42.5%	60.9%	42.7%	17.0%	43.9%	29.0%	27.2%	55.7%	56.7%	19.2%	28.5%	40.5%	80.0%	19.3%	64.20%	33.1%	58.3%
Spanish	26.7%	24.5%	7.9%	5.0%	37.3%	55.2%	55.7%	57.6%	17.4%	29.8%	26.2%	24.0%	16.0%	4.8%	3.4%	64.3%	10.8%	11.0%	30.3%
Chinese	22.0%	33.4%	35.4%	**20%	6.6%	16.2%		5.3%	41.8%	6.7%	5.7%	37.3%	40.8%	47.4%	9.5%	9.2%	13.3%	8%	**25.8%
Vietnamese	2.95%	4.3%	1.6%		0.1%	8.4%		0.3%	4.2%	1.0%	0.3%	*	7.0%	0.8%	*	5.4%	0.1%	4.8%	
Tagalog	1.63%	1.7%	2.4%		4.8%	1.2%		1.5%	1.7%	2.1%	2.0%	1.5%	1.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%	1.7%	1.7%	
Japanese	1.19%	0.9%	1.4%		0.4%	0.2%		0.8%	4.3%	0.5%	0.7%	0.5%	0.8%	1.1%	1.5%	*	2.1%	1.4%	
Korean	1.14%	0.7%	1.9%		*	0.3%		0.5%	1.6%	0.6%	1.2%	0.6%	0.8%	1.6%	0.5%	0.6%	3.1%	1.9%	
Languages of India	0.68%	0.6%	1.9%		0.6%	0.1%		0.7%	0.1%	0.2%	1.5%	0.3%	*	0.9%	0.4%	*	0.7%	0.9%	
Other Asian Languages	0.64%	0.6%	2.0%		0.3%	0.3%		0.6%	0.5%	*	0.5%	1.1%	1.4%	0.6%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%	
Arabic	0.62%	0.2%	0.2%		1.5%	*		*	0.6%	0.1%	0.5%	*	0.1%	*	2.3%	*	0.1%	*	
Pacific Island Languages	0.59%	0.9%	1.0%		0.2%	0.4%		0.2%	1.0%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.8%	0.5%	*	0.5%	0.4%	1.5%	
Mon-Khmer (Cambodian)	0.52%					0.3%		*	0.5%	*	*	0.6%	0.4%	*	*	*	*	0.8%	
African Languages	0.35%	*	*		0.4%	*		*	*	0.6%	0.3%	*	*	*	0.1%	*	*	*	
West Germanic Lang.	0.35%	*	*		*	*		*	*	0.3%	*	*	*	*	0.3%	0.6%	*	*	0.2%
German/Yiddish	0.34%	0.1%	0.1%		0.3%	0.1%		*	0.2%	0.5%	0.6%	*	*	0.7%	0.5%	*	0.5%	0.1%	
French	0.32%	0.1%	0.3%		*	0.1%		0.1%	0.5%	*	0.4%	*	0.1%	0.5%	*	*	1.0%	0.1%	
Armenian	0.30%	0.1%	0.2%		0.1%	*		0.8%	*	*	0.5%	*	*	0.1%	*	*	*	*	
Slavic Languages	0.25%		0.4%		*	*		*	*	0.3%	*	*	*	0.1%	*	*	0.2%	*	
Persian	0.24%	0.2%	0.3%		0.2%	*		0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.7%	*	*	0.1%	0.2%	*	0.2%	*	
Thai	0.23%	*	0.5%		*	0.1%		0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	*	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	*	*	0.2%	0.2%	
Native American Language	0.20%	*	*		0.4%	0.2%		0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	*	*	*	*	0.1%	*	*	*	
Greek	0.20%	*	*	*	*	*		0.1%	*	*	0.2%	*	0.1%	*	0.3%	*	0.3%	*	
Portugeuse	0.20%	*	0.2%		*	*		*	*	0.2%	0.2%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Other Indo-European	0.18%	0.1%	*		0.1%	*		*	*	*	*	*	0.1%	*	0.3%	*	0.2%	0.3%	
Italian	0.17%	0.1%	0.2%	*	0.2%	*		0.1%	*	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	*	0.3%	0.1%	*	0.3%	
Hungarian	0.15%									0.1%					0.2%	*	*	*	
Russian	0.15%	*	0.2%		*	*		0.2%	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.1%	*	0.1%	*	
Polish	0.13%	*	*		*	*		*	*	*	*	0.2%	0.1%	*	0.1%	*	*	*	
Laotian	0.10%	0.1%	*		*	*		*	0.1%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	

* Percentage less than 0.1% of population

Source: NeighborhoodScout.com

** Data for Bradbury, Irwindale, and Unincorporated Communities is presented slightly differently, since it was not available from the same source. US Census Bureau 2022 American Community Estimates, from which data for these two Cities and County Uninc. was sourced, does not have the same level of detail; it tracks English, Spanish, Other Indo-European languages, and "Asian and Pacific Islander languages." Based on Rio Hondo area patterns, the Watershed Coordinator team put the Asian and Pacific Islander languages under "Chinese" in this table, but recognizes that other languages are likely represented.

Unincorporated County communities represented here by data from Alhambra, Mayflower Village, N. El Monte, San Pasqual, S. San Gabriel, and S. Monrovia Island.

Please note: The Watershed Coordinator team acknowledges the deficiency of using the word "Chinese" rather than specifying Mandarin or Cantonese. Census data uses "Chinese" since those two distinct spoken languages share one written language.

2024 Changes

* List expanded to include languages with a percentage of at least 0.1% in two or more jurisdictions.

* 2024 is the first time Native American Languages have appeared in the data.



Appendix F

Interested Party Mapping

Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

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APPENDIX E: INTERESTED PARTY MAPPING

Community-Based Organizations	
Name	
A3PCON – Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council	
API Forward Movement	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Heng Lam Foong (Program Director)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Jean Park	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Je-Show Yang (Senior Policy Coordinator, APIFM’s Sustainable SGV Program)	
Active SGV	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">David Diaz	
Communities for a Better Environment	
Day One	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Christy Zamani	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">James Cortes-Rivera	
Groundwater Resources Assn of California	
Investing in Place	
LA Neighborhood Land Trust	
LAANE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Lauren Ahkiam, Director, Water Justice LA Campaign (Met at Good Jobs for All)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Brittany Rivas, Community Organizer, Water Justice LA Campaign (Met at Good Jobs for All)	
Nature for All	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Belén Bernal (Executive Director)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bryan Matsumoto (Program Manager)	
SGV Civic Alliance	
San Gabriel and Lower LA Rivers & Mountains Conservancy	
Social Justice Learning Institute (SJLI)	
Water is Life (WIL)	
Water Education for Latino Leaders	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Paul Hernandez, Executive Director	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sergio Jimenez, City Councilmember, Monrovia (AAPI-UnTapped Fellow 2023)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Diana Mahmud, WELL Executive Board Member; Former Councilmember, City of South Pasadena	

Environmental Stewardship Organizations	
Name	
Amigos de los Rios	

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• Claire Robinson, Allyson Mello,
Arlington Garden – Michelle Matthews
Council for Watershed Health
• Eileen Alduenda (Executive Director)
Friends of Baldwin Lake
Friends of Washington Park
Los Angeles WaterKeeper
Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
Our Water LA
Sierra Club San Gabriel Valley Taskforce
Think Earth Foundation
TreePeople
Trust for Public Land
• Edna Robidas

Native American/Tribal Organizations

Name
American Indian Chamber of Commerce
American Indian Community Council
Gabrieleño-San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
Kizh Nation
Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous People

City and County Government

Organization/Individual
Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis – 1 st District
Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger – 5 th District
Alhambra – Sasha Renée Pérez (District 4), Mayor
Alhambra – Katherine Lee (District 1), Vice Mayor
Alhambra – Ross J. Maza (District 2), Councilmember
Alhambra – Jeffrey Koji Maloney (District 3), Councilmember
Alhambra – Adele Andrade-Stadler (District 5), Councilmember
Alhambra – Jessica Binnquist, City Manager
Alhambra – Ray Martin, Director of Public Works
Alhambra – Andrew Ho, Director of Community Development Department
Alhambra – Michael Macias, Director of Parks and Recreation

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Arcadia – Dr. Michael Cao, Mayor (Term Expires: November 2026) – District 5
Arcadia – Sharon Kwan, Mayor Pro Tem (District 2) – Term expires November 2026
Arcadia – Paul Cheng, Councilmember (District 4) - Term Expires: November 2026
Arcadia – April Verlato, Councilmember (District 1) Term Expires: November 2024
Arcadia – Eileen Wang, Councilmember (District 3) – Term expires November 2026
Arcadia – Dominic Lazzaretto, City Manager
Arcadia – Paul Cranmer, Public Works Services Director
Bradbury – Richard G. Baraket (District 3), Mayor
Bradbury – Richard T. Hale, Jr. (District 1), Mayor Pro Tem
Bradbury - Bruce Lathrop (District 4), Councilmember
Bradbury – D. Montgomery Lewis, (District 2), Councilmember
Bradbury – Richard Barakat (District 3), Councilmember
Bradbury – Elizabeth Bruny (District 5), Councilmember
Bradbury – Kevin Kearney, City Manager
Bradbury – Jim Kasama, City Planner (Contractor)
Duarte – Vinh Truong (District 2), Mayor
Duarte – Cesar Garcia (District 6), Mayor Pro Tem
Duarte – Margaret Finlay (District 1), Councilmember
Duarte – Jody Schulz (District 3), Councilmember
Duarte – Tera Martin Del Campo, Councilmember (District 4)
Duarte – Samuel Kang (District 5), Councilmember
Duarte – Toney Lewis (District 7), Councilmember
Duarte – Brian Villalobos, City Manager
Duarte – Stephanie Sandoval, Public Works Manager
Duarte – Craig Hensley, Community Development Director
Duarte – Cody Howing, City Engineer
Duarte – Manuel Enriquez, Parks and Recreation Director
El Monte - Jessica Ancona, Mayor
El Monte – Dr. Julia Rivas, Mayor Pro Tem
El Monte - Martin Herrera, Councilmember
El Monte – Marisol Cortez, Councilmember
El Monte - Victoria Martinez Muela, Councilmember
El Monte – Alma Puente, Council Member
El Monte – Richard Rojo, Councilmember
El Monte - Alma Martinez, City Manager
El Monte – James Enriquez, Public Works and Utilities Director
El Monte – Betty Donovanik, Community & Economic Development Director
El Monte – Amber Servin, Interim Director, Parks, Recreation and Community Services

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Irwindale – Albert F. Ambriz, Mayor
Irwindale – Larry G. Burrola, Mayor Pro Tem
Irwindale – Mark A. Breceda, Councilmember
Irwindale – Manuel R. Garcia, Councilmember
Irwindale – H. Manuel Ortiz, Mayor
Irwindale – Julian Miranda, City Manager
Irwindale – Elizabeth Rodriguez, Director of Engineering/Building Official
Irwindale – Marilyn Simpson, AICP, Community Development Director
Irwindale – Paula Faijo, Chair, Parks and Recreation Commission
Monrovia – Becky A. Shevlin, Mayor
Monrovia – Dr. Tamala Kelly, Mayor Pro Tem
Monrovia – Larry J. Spicer, Council Member
Monrovia – Sergio Jimenez, Councilmember
Monrovia – Edward Belden, Councilmember
Monrovia - Dylan Feik, City Manager
Monrovia – Alex Tachiki, Dir. of Public Works
Monrovia - Victoria Rocha, Deputy Dir. of Public Works
Monrovia – Craig Jimenez, Community Development Director
Montebello – Scarlet Peralta, Mayor
Montebello - Salvador Melenda, Mayor Pro Tem
Montebello - Angie Jimenez, Council Member
Montebello - Salvador Melendez, Council Member
Montebello - Georgina Tamayo, Councilmember
Montebello - David Torres, Councilmember
Montebello – Cesar Roldan, Dir. of Public Works
Montebello – Joseph Palombi, Planning & Community Development Director
Montebello – David Sosnowski, Director of Recreation and Community Services
Monterey Park – Thomas Wong (District 1), Mayor
Monterey Park – Vinh T. Ngo (District 5), Mayor Pro Tem
Monterey Park – Yvonne Yiu (District 2) Council Member
Monterey Park – Henry Lo (District 4), Councilmember
Monterey Park – Jose Sanchez (District 3) Councilmember
Monterey Park – Shawn Igoe, Director of Public Works
Monterey Park – Jessica Serrano, Dir. Of Community Development
Pasadena - Victor M. Gordo, Mayor
Pasadena - District 1 - Councilmember Tyron Hampton
Pasadena - District 2 – Vice Mayor Felicia Williams
Pasadena - District 3 - Councilmember Justin Jones

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Pasadena - District 4 - Councilmember Gene Masuda
Pasadena - District 5 - Councilmember Jess Rivas
Pasadena - District 6 - Councilmember Steve Madison
Pasadena - District 7 - Councilmember Jason Lyon
Pasadena – Miguel Márquez, City Manager
Pasadena – Tony Olmos, Dir. of Public Works
Pasadena – Brent Maue, Assistant City Engineer
Pasadena – David Reyes, Assistant City Manager
Pasadena – Brenda Harvey-Williams, Director of Planning & Community Development
Rosemead – Steven Ly, Mayor (current term ends 2026)
Rosemead – Margaret Clark, Mayor Pro Tem (Current term ends 2026)
Rosemead – Sandra Armenta, Council Member (Current term ends 2026)
Rosemead – Sean Dang, Council Member (Current term ends 2024)
Rosemead – Polly Low, Council Member (Current term ends 2024)
Rosemead – Ben Kim, City Manager
Rosemead – Noya Wang, Director of Public Works
Rosemead – Brian Saeki, Director of Community Development
Rosemead – Tom Boecking, Director of Parks and Recreation
San Gabriel – John Wu, Mayor
San Gabriel – Denise Menchaca, Vice Mayor
San Gabriel – Eric Chan, Councilmember
San Gabriel – Tony Ding, Councilmember
San Gabriel – John R. Harrington, Councilmember
San Gabriel - Greg de Vinck, Public Works Director
San Gabriel – Mark Lazzaretto, City Manager
San Gabriel – Samantha Tewasart, Planning Manager
San Gabriel – Rebecca Perez, Director, Community Services
San Marino – Steven W. Huang, DDS, Mayor
San Marino – Gretchen Shepherd Romey, Vice Mayor
San Marino - Tony Chou, Council Member
San Marino – Calvin Lo, Council Member
San Marino - Steve Talt, Council Member
San Marino – Philippe Eskandar, City Manager
San Marino – Amber Shah, P.E., QSP/QSD – Parks & Public Works Director/City Engineer
Sierra Madre – John Capoccia, Mayor
Sierra Madre - Rachelle Arizmendi, Mayor Pro Tem
Sierra Madre – Gene Goss, Council Member
Sierra Madre - John Harabedian, City Council Member
Sierra Madre – Laura Aguilar, Deputy City Manager

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Sierra Madre - Bruce Inman, Public Works Director
Sierra Madre – Vincent Gonzalez, Director of Planning & Community Preservation
South El Monte – Gloria Olmos, Mayor (Term expires November 2024)
South El Monte – Rudy Bojorquez, Mayor Pro Tem
South El Monte – Manuel Acosta, Councilmember
South El Monte – Hector Delgado, Councilmember
South El Monte – Rene Salas, City Manager
South El Monte – Ariana De La Cruz, Director of Community Services
South El Monte – Jayson Perez, Community Services Manager
South Pasadena – Evelyn G. Zneimer, Mayor (District 1)
South Pasadena – Jack Donovan, Mayor Pro Tem (District 2)
South Pasadena – Jon Primuth, Councilmember (District 3)
South Pasadena – Michael A. Cacciotti, Councilmember (District 4)
South Pasadena – Janet Braun, Councilmember (District 5)
South Pasadena – Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager
South Pasadena – Ted Gerber, Public Works Director
South Pasadena – Anglica Frausto-Lupo, Community Development Director
South Pasadena – Sheila Pautsch, Community Services Director
South Pasadena – Lucy Hakobian, Community Services Deputy Director
Temple City – Tom Chavez, Mayor
Temple City – Vincent Yu, Mayor Pro Tem
Temple City - Cynthia Sternquist, Councilmember
Temple City – William Man, Councilmember
Temple City – Ed Chen, Councilmember
Temple City – Bryan Cook, City Manager
Temple City – Scott Reimers, Community Development Director
Temple City – Adam Matsumoto, Parks & Recreation Director
Los Angeles County Department of Parks & Recreation
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Los Angeles County Public Works

Councils of Governments

Entity

MAD Town Council (representing unincorporated areas of Monrovia, Arcadia, and Duarte)

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

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Agencies – Local and Regional

Entity
Gateway Water Management Authority (GWMA)
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro)
Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster
San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority
San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control Community Affairs
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Southern California Assn of Governments (SCAG)
Watershed Conservation Authority

Agencies – State and Federal

Entity
California Conservation Corps
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Stormwater Program
State Water Resources Control Board
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps
US Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9

Water Wholesalers

Entity
San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
Upper San Gabriel Valley Water District

Water Retailers

Entity
Amarillo Mutual Water Company
Cal-Am Water Company (Duarte)
Cal-Am Water Company (San Marino)
Cal Water Service Company
City of Alhambra

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City of Arcadia
City of El Monte
City of Monrovia
City of Monterey Park
City of Pasadena
City of Sierra Madre
City South Pasadena
Del Rio Mutual Water Company
East Pasadena Water Company
Golden State Water Company
Montebello Land and Water Company
Rurban Homes Mutual Company
San Gabriel CWD (County Water District)
San Gabriel Valley Water Company
South Montebello Irrigation District
Sterling Mutual Water Company
Sunny Slope Mutual Water Company
Valley CWD Duarte

Educational Institutions	
Entity	
Art Center College of Design (Pasadena)	
California Institute of Technology (CalTech) (Pasadena)	
East Los Angeles College (Monterey Park)	
LA College of Music (Pasadena)	
Pasadena City College (Pasadena)	
Providence Christian College (Pasadena)	
S. El Monte High School (S. El Monte)	
TIME Charter High School (Montebello)	
Dr. Gabriel Martinez	
University of the West (Rosemead)	

School Districts
Entity
Alhambra Unified School District (incl parts of Monterey Park)
* Kaysa Moreno, President (Elected Nov 2020 to serve 4-yr term.) Intro'd by APIFM
Arcadia Unified School District
Duarte Unified School District (incl Bradbury, parts of Irwindale)

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El Monte City School District (incl parts of S. El Monte)
El Monte Union High School District (incl part of S. El Monte)
Garvey Unified School District
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Anita Chu, SuperintendentAndrew Yam, Member
Monrovia Unified School District
Montebello Unified School District (incl parts of Monterey Park)
Mountain View School District (El Monte/S. El Monte)
Pasadena Unified School District (incl Sierra Madre)
Rosemead School District
San Gabriel Unified School District
San Marino Unified School District
South Pasadena Unified School District
Temple City Unified School District
Valle Lindo School District (S. El Monte)

Business Organizations

Entity
Chambers of Commerce for Rio Hondo Watershed
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership

Workforce Development

Entity
Grey Snow Professional Services <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fletcher Burton
LA/Orange Counties Building & Construction Trades Council Apprenticeship Readiness Fund (Met at Good Jobs for All Mtg, 2023) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Anne McGonigle, Executive DirectorBen Garcia, Program Director (Participated in WC Mtg, July 2023)Isaac Lopez, Case Manager (Participated in WC Mtg, July 2023)
LA DWP/IBEW Local 18 Utility Pre-Craft Training Program (Met at Good Jobs for All)
MASH – Municipal Assistance, Solutions, and Hiring (City of Pasadena)
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership Workforce Development <ul style="list-style-type: none">Amy Foell (afoell@sgvpartnership.org)

(Interested Community Member Information Maintained in Separate Non-Public List)



Appendix G

SCWP Regional Coordination Suggested Questions List

For each [Strategy] below is a series of questions that can help Watershed Coordinators develop a suite of appropriate strategies.

1. Engage Stakeholders, municipalities, community groups.

- **Who are the interested parties in the Watershed Area? Which groups have expressed an interest, and which groups have an interest but may not yet be engaged?** (This is interested party mapping, as described above.)
- Are there marginalized groups or people who need support to become engaged? Have you evaluated equitably the entire community of the Watershed Area to ensure that harder-to-reach, smaller, or often overlooked interested parties will be engaged?
- Within the Watershed Area, who are the correct contact people, and what is their contact information, at the municipalities and county departments related to the Safe, Clean Water Program?
- What regional collaboratives exist that have engaged with the Program, either public sector or within civil society? Are there collaboratives that aren't but should be engaged? School districts, special district governments, private utilities?
- Are there tribal governments or indigenous leaders that need to be engaged directly by the Flood Control District or the County? What can be done to strengthen those interactions as they relate to the SCWP?
- What are the best ways to communicate messages out, and receive messages in, to the SCWP from the interested parties? What technology is appropriate? What venues (city council, community meetings, etc.) or media will be used (web, newspaper, radio, etc.)?

2. Solicit input, connect to technical assistance (TA) opportunities.

- What are the most effective places to attend and listen to the Watershed Area community? Can interviewing, tabling, or surveys draw valuable input? How will community voice be conveyed into the SCWP?
- How can SCWP interface and benefit from other efforts that are currently or recently soliciting input from communities?
- How can the Watershed Coordinator interact with the broader SCWP education program, with its three elements of education, school programs, and workforce development?
- Are there project concepts already held by interested parties but that need help accessing the Technical Resources Program?
- How can the Watershed Coordinator support interested parties having greater engagement with existing public elements of the program (WASC, ROC, Scoring meetings, website, calls-for-projects, low-income and senior assistance program, etc.)

3. Ensure diverse perspectives are shared with the District and WASCs.

- How will the “diversity” in this work effort be defined?

- How can the SCWP listen for diverse perspectives? What ways can perspectives be shared with the District and WASCs; written reports, presentations by the Watershed Coordinator, direct presentations by those holding related perspectives, or other methods?
- Is there overlooked existing information in reports from other programs either past or ongoing that can provide diverse perspectives?
- Would non-English forms of engagement in the Watershed Area enhance this work effort?
- How can diverse perspectives, once shared with the District and WASCs, also be shared across the interested parties?

4. Identify and ensure the involvement of members of disadvantaged and underrepresented communities.

- Where are the communities considered disadvantaged by policy in the Watershed Area? Are there overburdened communities being omitted because of how the policy is written?
- What people are considered “underrepresented” in the Watershed Area? This term is undefined by policy, so how will a shared understanding of its use in the Watershed Area be developed?
- Are there existing or recent past efforts that have engaged disadvantaged communities which can be a source of involvement, and relationships of trust? Are their chosen and trusted representatives currently participating in SCWP?
- How will the expertise and assets held by members of communities be elevated alongside the challenges and needs?
- What barriers to involvement exist in how the program is currently engaging communities? What capacities exist that have been effective at ensuring involvement?

5. Identify educational programming about watershed management, ecological and community issues.

- How can the SCWP in general be educated about community issues?
- What education can be delivered to the WASCs that will enhance their understanding of Watershed Area strengths and needs as defined by all interested parties?
- What expertise and understanding already exists among interested parties that can be built upon with further education?
- Which educational efforts, alone or in partnership with the broader education program, will resonate with the interested parties of the Watershed Area?
- What other efforts exist or have recently existed that sought to deliver educational programming? What was their curricula, and their experience?

Identifying Collaborative Efforts

Each SOEP will also identify and describe collaborative efforts and who will be responsible for those efforts across Watershed Area boundaries, or in the two areas with multiple coordinators, how they will collaborate.

Coordinators are expected to play a critical role among local agencies and between WASCs to reduce redundant actions; identify opportunities for cooperative projects. This section of the SOEP will describe the approach to collaboration, including:

- How neighboring or hydrologically-connected Watershed Area Watershed Coordinators will be engaged.
- How will other programs be engaged, for instance, the ongoing Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program (DACIP), the MS4 compliance groups (e.g., WMP or EWMP), the OurCounty Plan implementation, or the WHAM Committee?
- How will the Watershed Coordinator seek connection to the Municipal Program of the SCWP?

Resources

There are many valuable references for watershed coordination in the SCWP, and more generally within the region and California. Below is a list, with links. It is not exhaustive, and this list will move to a shared platform that all coordinators will be able to add to and keep up-to-date.

- SCWP Digital Spatial Library (available on the Resources page at <https://safecleanwaterla.org/>).
 - <https://arcg.is/rbKfm>
- Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management
 - <https://dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/irwmp/>
- Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management
 - <https://www.dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/scr/>
- Los Angeles IRWM Funding Region Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program
 - <https://www.dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/irwmp/Prop1DACIP.aspx>
- Redesign LA – A strategic initiative of the Council for Watershed Health
 - <https://www.redesign.la/>