

# Safe, Clean Water Program

Municipal Program: Metrics and Measure Workshop

May 15, 2025

Questions & Answers

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## **Q: Will scientific studies need to submit data for metrics & measures?**

A: Yes, but only for applicable goals. (Project Sponsor should indicate which/all goals that apply).

## **Q: Are the municipal projects subject to the same feasibility requirements as the watersheds?**

A: All projects implemented through the SCWP Municipal Program are required to provide a water quality benefit; nature-based solutions are strongly encouraged for multi-benefit projects. It is good practice for municipalities to follow the 19 feasibility requirements in the Regional Program, but it is not a condition for eligibility in the Municipal Program.

## **Q: What if Metrics states, "*this page is not applicable since the project is in an Approved SIP*"?**

A: This message indicates that the metrics or information requested have already been captured through the Regional Program reporting module and it is not necessary to input the data again. This usually happens when the project is being cost-shared with Municipal Program funds.

## **Q: We get funding annually. Is there a way to receive additional funding for larger projects, such as a Connector Pipe Screens (CPS) installation Project?**

A: The SCWP Municipal Program provides funding to municipalities proportional to revenues generated annually within its boundaries. No additional Municipal Program funding can be allocated in excess of the calculated annual local return.

Options for municipalities to have a higher budget for bigger projects would be to roll over Municipal Funds from one year to the next, or to secure Regional Program funds and/or external revenue sources such as grants. Collaborative measures can also be cost-effective by combining installation projects with another municipalities.

## **Q: How should load reduction be estimated or quantified for Municipal projects?**

A: Questions about load reductions and volume captures in the *Improved Water Quality* and *Increased Throughout Preparedness* tabs are designed to assist municipalities in providing the most meaningful data at this point. The current request is for municipalities to make the best estimates in terms of those load and volume reductions, using best available estimation

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methodology. A functionality to auto-calculate the load and volume reductions is planned for release to the Municipal Program Module (similar to the functionality in the Regional Projects Module) by April 2026.

**Q: Will the Metrics and Measures report be a one-time report, or will it be a routine/ongoing report?**

A: The Metrics and Measures report will become part of the reporting requirements that will assist the Watershed Area Steering Committees track progress towards the established targets within the watershed plans.

**Q: Will the data, details, and numbers input in this Metrics module autofill the information in the Annual Reports?**

A: This reporting module update to auto-fill values from Metrics and Measures into the Annual report tabs is scheduled to be completed prior to the next Annual Report due date of December 2025.

**Q: Will the Municipal Module produce outputs in Annual Reports that summarizes Metrics and Measures data?**

A: Updates to the reporting module will be made prior to the Municipal Annual Reporting due date of December 2025 to provide a basic summary of the Metrics & Measures, emphasizing the key elements for Watershed Planning.

**Q: How should O&M activities for physical projects completed prior to Nov 2018 be categorized and included in Municipal Program Reporting?**

A: Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code Chapter 16.03 defines a “Project” as *the development, operation and maintenance (including monitoring) of a physical structure or facility that increases Stormwater or Urban Runoff capture or reduces Stormwater or Urban Runoff pollution in the District.*

O&M Activities for projects completed prior to November 2018 must be identified as “Existing” Activities” and no more than thirty percent (30%) of a Municipality's Municipal Program funds may be used to pay for these O&M costs incurred on or after November 6, 2018. O&M Activities

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for projects completed after November 2018 are to be identified as New Activities in the Annual Plan and Reports. A description of the SCWP goals and applicable metrics still apply.

**Q: Is there a bulk upload option for the information and data?**

A: Not at this time.

**Q: How and when can we make edits? Is there a way to recall a report after submitting it?**

A: The Metrics & Measures Module can be updated any time. Information is saved each time the "Metrics Complete" is saved. There is no need to submit.

This is different from the Annual Plans and Annual Reports, wherein edits cannot be made once they are submitted. If changes need to be made, an email should be sent to the SCW Municipal Program team to change the report status to "In Progress."

**Q: How does this metric reporting integrate with prior December reporting? Are they two different reports or does this June report replace the December report? What will happen in the future?**

A: These are two separate efforts. The Annual Reports are due December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year for the prior fiscal year. Annual Reports shall detail each municipality's expenditures and activities for the prior fiscal year and shall include, but is not limited to the following:

- Amount of funds received and breakdown of how the Municipal Program payment has been expended
- Description of activities that have occurred
- Description of benefits that have been achieved
- Description of gaps between what was planned and what was achieved

The Metrics and Measures tile is a separate data request that is intended to support the watershed planning process. Initial Watershed Plans are expected to be finalized in early 2026, thus the request for Metrics and Measures by June 2025.

Updates to the reporting module are scheduled which includes the addition of a basic summary of the Metrics & Measures in the Annual Report due by December 2025.

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**Q: Are these data being used to inform Water Quality targets for the County Watershed Planning efforts? If so, estimating pollutant load reductions rather than having a standardized calculation could be misleading for future WASC spending. Couldn't this information be taking from post-construction monitoring rather than estimations?**

A: The baselines and targets reflected in the Initial Watershed Plans will include information from both Regional and Municipal Program Projects to provide a holistic, SCW Program-wide overview of benefits provided by Projects funded-to-date. While the Initial Watershed Plan baselines quantify benefits expected by SCW Program funded Projects, future Initial Watershed Plan Addenda or Adaptive Watershed Plans may also compile and quantify benefits provided by SCW Program funded Programs and Scientific Studies as well as Project post-construction monitoring and metrics.

**Q: What would be significant figure values for reporting purposes?**

A: Please use best professional judgement for significant figures. Note that DDT/PCB loads are not being requested at this time.

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