SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

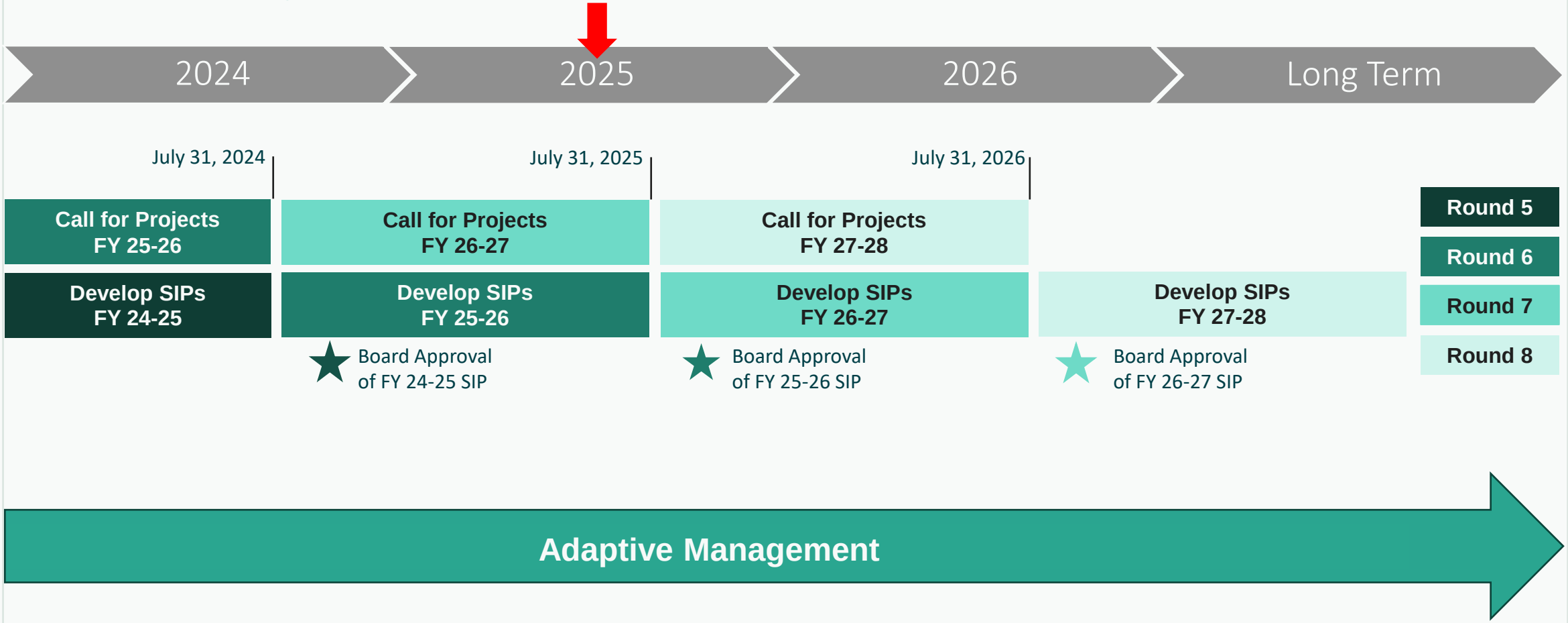
FY26-27 Call for Projects Information Session

SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM
May 22, 2025

Overview

- Timeline
- SCW Program Goals and Fund Overview
- Call for Projects
- Adaptive Management
- Stormwater Investment Plans
- Transfer Agreements
- Guidance Documents
- Projects Module Live Tutorial
- Q&A

Call for Projects Timeline



SCW Program 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

Reference: Section 18.04 of the Safe, Clean Water Program Implementation Ordinance

SCW Program Goals (continued)

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 (110%) return to DACs, to the extent feasible

L. Implement an iterative planning and evaluation process to ensure adaptive management

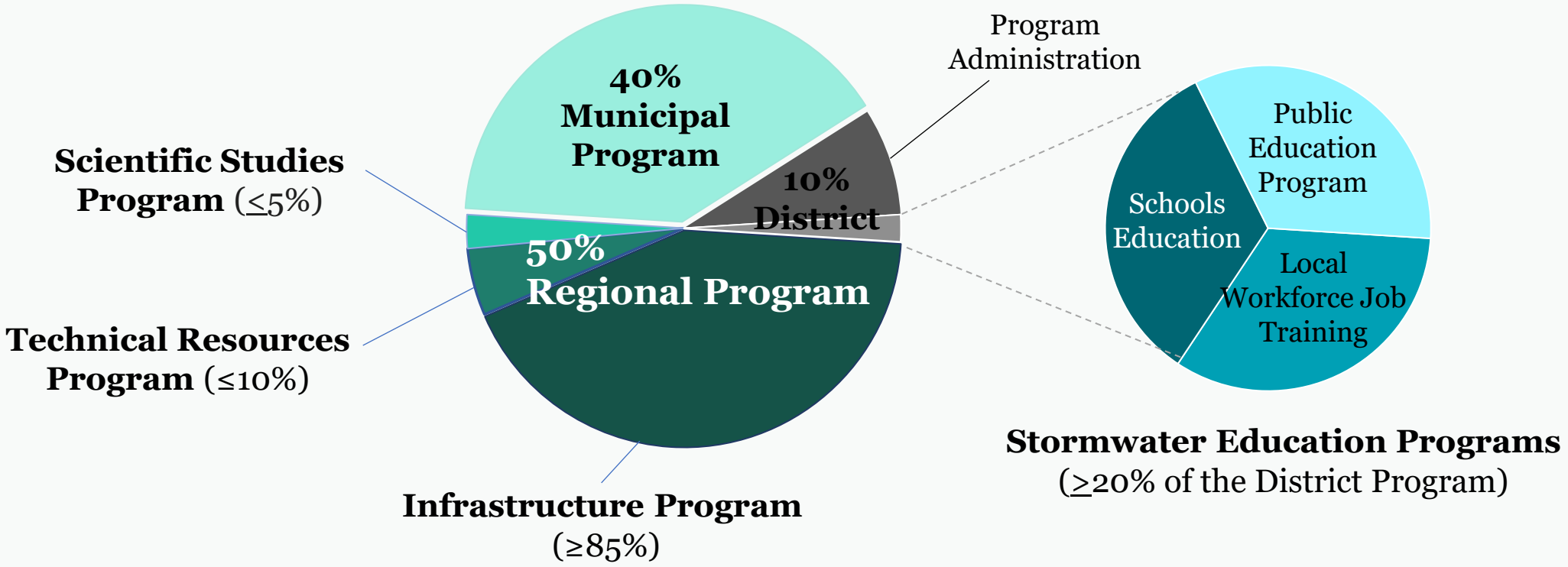
M. Promote green jobs and career pathways

N. Ensure ongoing operations and maintenance for Projects

Reference: Section 18.04 of the Safe, Clean Water Program Implementation Ordinance

SCWP Revenue Distribution

Special Parcel Tax of 2.5 cents per square foot of impermeable area $280M annually



Regional Program

FY26-27 Call for Projects

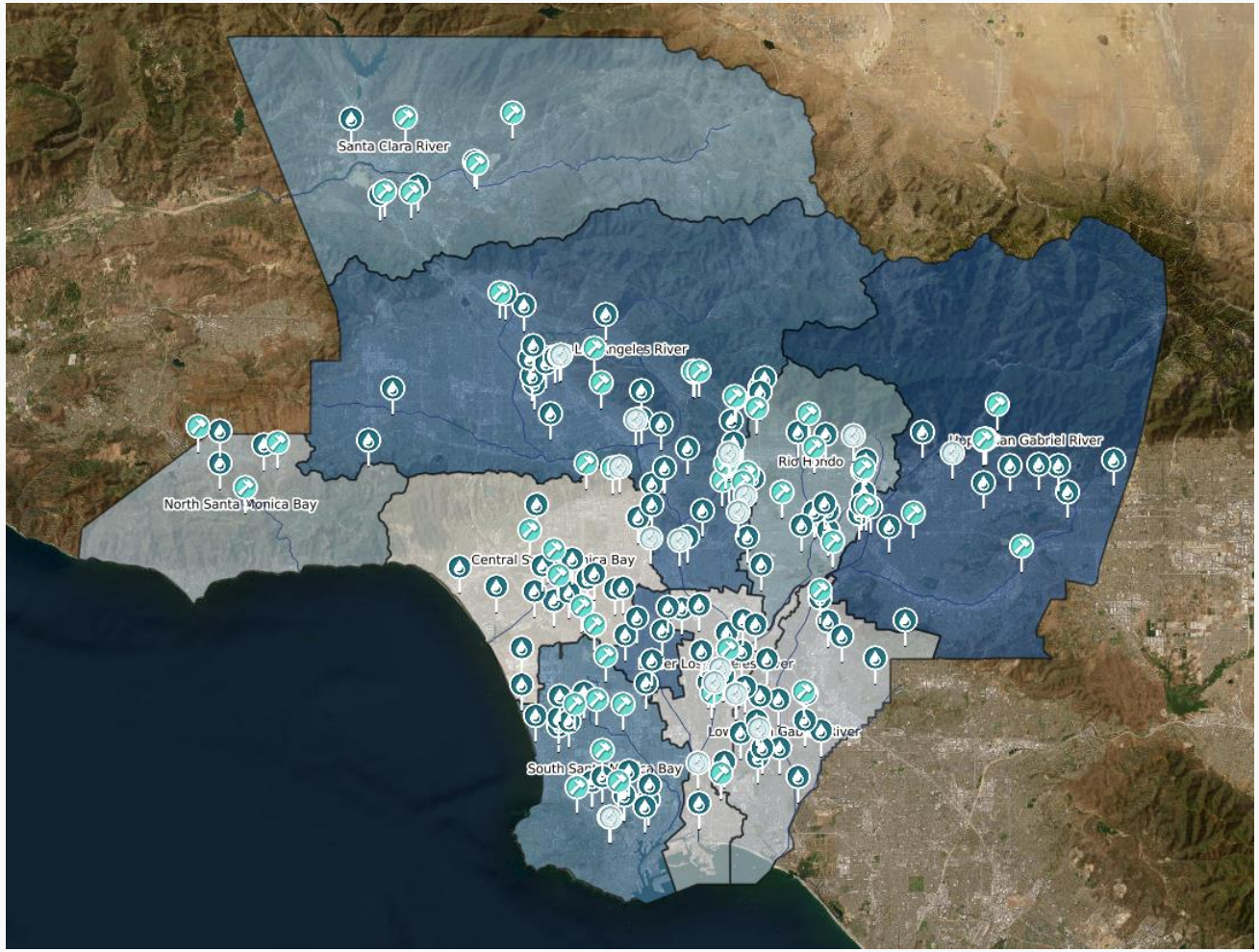
Call for Projects FY26-27

- Call for Projects for FY26-27 Funding is open for **Infrastructure Program (IP)** projects, **Technical Resources Program (TRP)** projects, and **Scientific Studies (SS)**
- Call for Projects currently scheduled to close **July 31, 2025**
  - All applications received by the deadline will be reviewed for completeness by SCW Program staff.
  - Complete applications will be evaluated to present their concepts or studies to the committees. Applications are not prioritized based on the order they are received.
- Projects Module has been updated. Please review every form and tool tip carefully and ensure completeness prior to submitting your application(s).

Adaptive Management Efforts

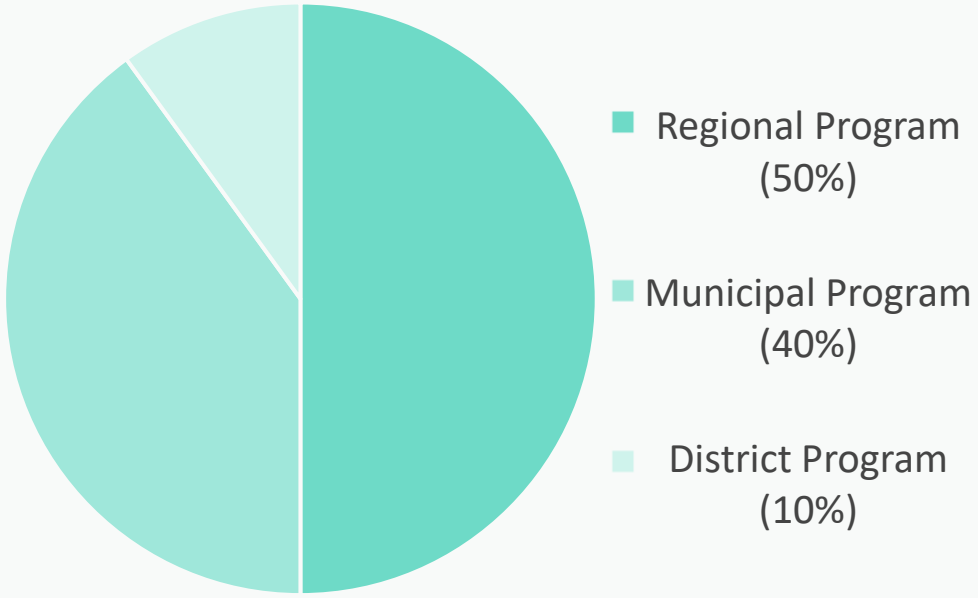
- Incorporating performance measures into various elements of the SCWP to measure achievement of SCWP Goals, guide watershed planning, and inform project development, solicitation, and evaluation efforts
- Enhancing the application and reporting functionality within the Project Portal
- Updating Regional Program application processes, feasibility study guidelines, scoring criteria, and Transfer Agreements to account for additional performance indicators and distinct project phases
- Updated or new guidance documents and user-friendly tools to further inform and support various elements of the SCWP and the decision-making process within it
- Advancement of the District Education Programs, including Workforce Development, engagement with schools, and the Public Education and Community Engagement Grants Program
- Initiated Watershed Planning efforts to facilitate regional and watershed-based planning that identifies project opportunity areas and refines population indicators to support strategic investment

Regional Program



For SCWP purposes, the County is divided into 9 Watershed Areas

Regional Program



50% Program Revenue

Provides funding for multi-benefit watershed-based projects

WATERSHED AREA	ANTICIPATED ANNUAL FUNDS COLLECTED
Central Santa Monica Bay	$17.1 Million
Lower Los Angeles River	$12.3 Million
Lower San Gabriel River	$16.4 Million
North Santa Monica Bay	$1.8 Million
Rio Hondo	$11.4 Million
Santa Clara River	$5.8 Million
South Santa Monica Bay	$17.4 Million
Upper Los Angeles River	$38.3 Million
Upper San Gabriel River	$18.6 Million

Regional Program Funding Distribution

Not less than 85%: Infrastructure Program

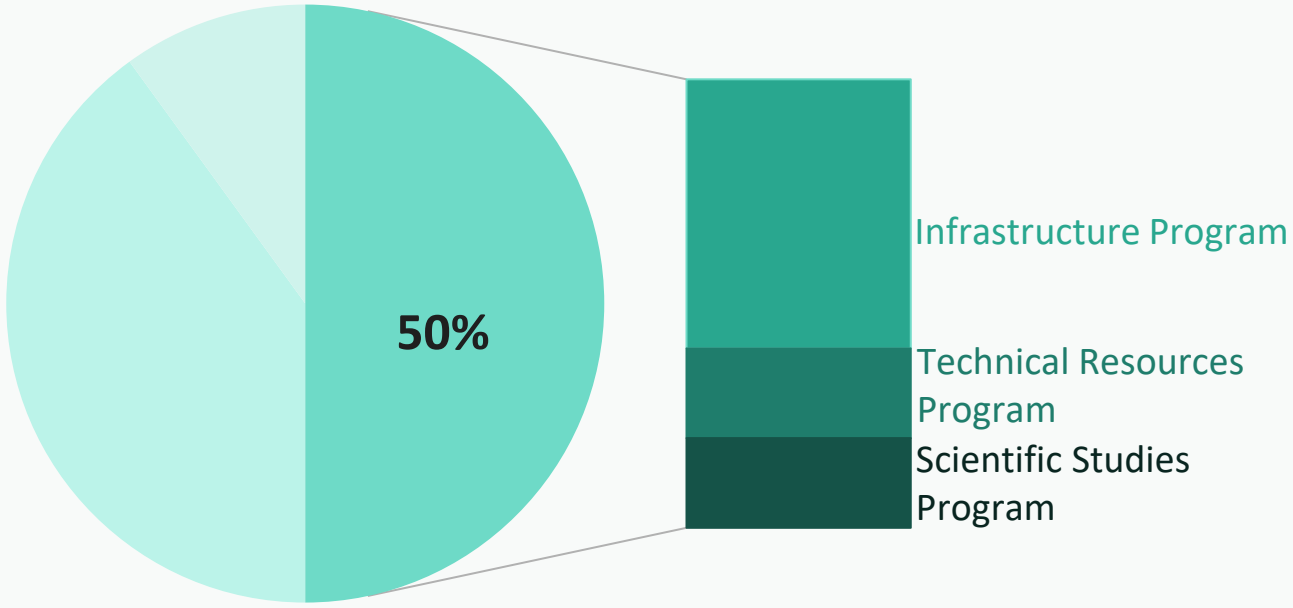
- To implement *continuing* Multi-Benefit watershed-based Projects

Up to 10%: Technical Resources Program

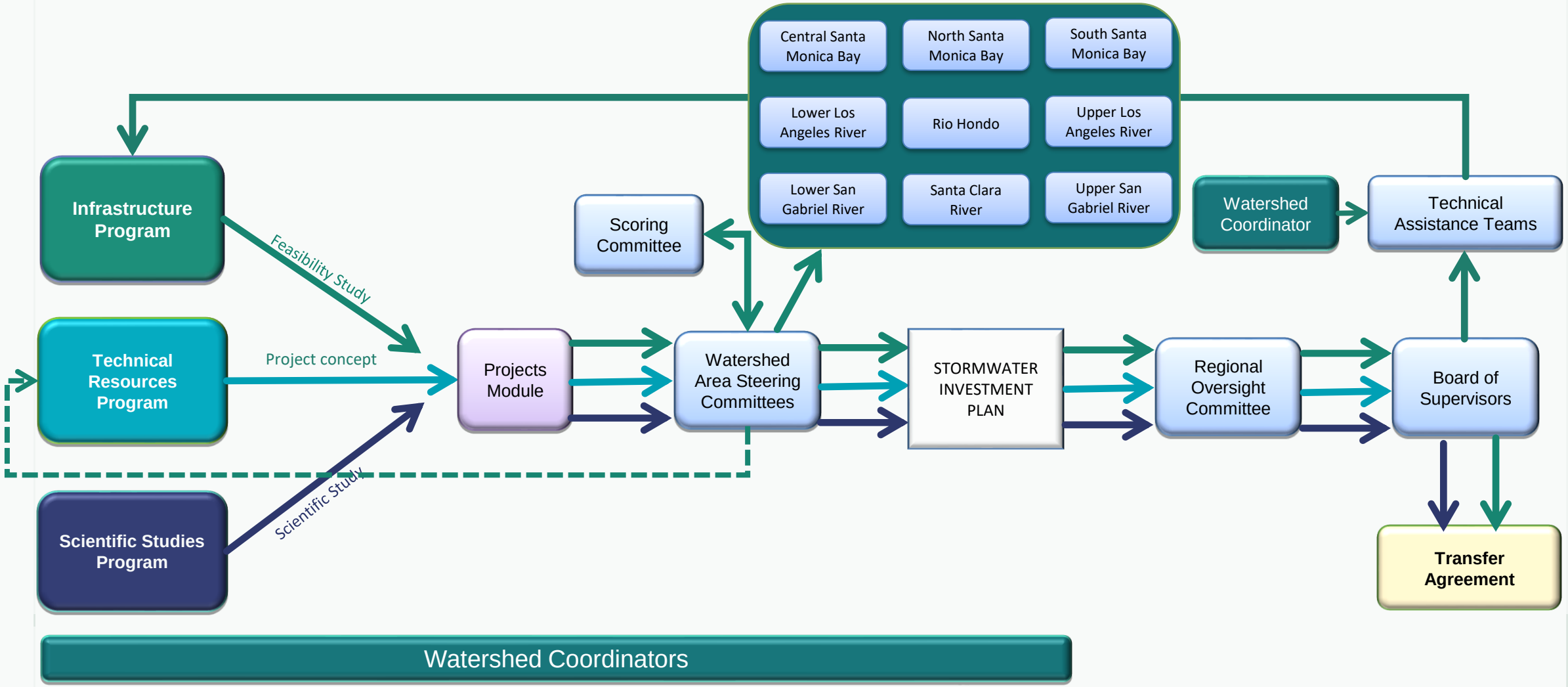
- To provide resources for the development of Feasibility Studies through support from Technical Assistance Teams
- To provide Watershed Coordinators to educate and build capacity in communities and facilitate community and stakeholder engagement

Up to 5%: Scientific Studies Program

- To provide funding for eligible scientific and other activities



Regional Program – Typical Process

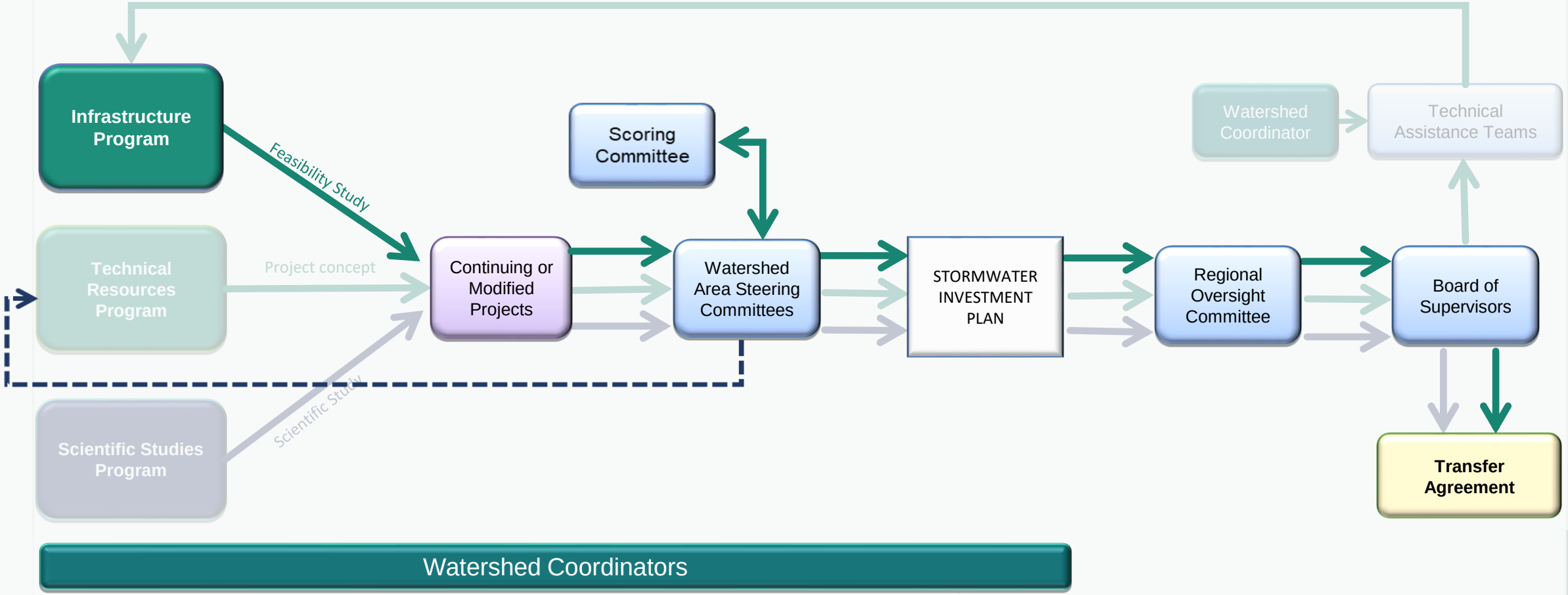


Scoring Criteria – Definition, Tips, and Examples

General Tips (from Scoring Committee)

- Help us help you!!!
- Show your work
- Quantify need and benefits
- Be clear & simple
- Include back-up info for all sections/in right place

Regional Program – Infrastructure Program Projects



Regional Program – Infrastructure Program Projects

Project Applicants:

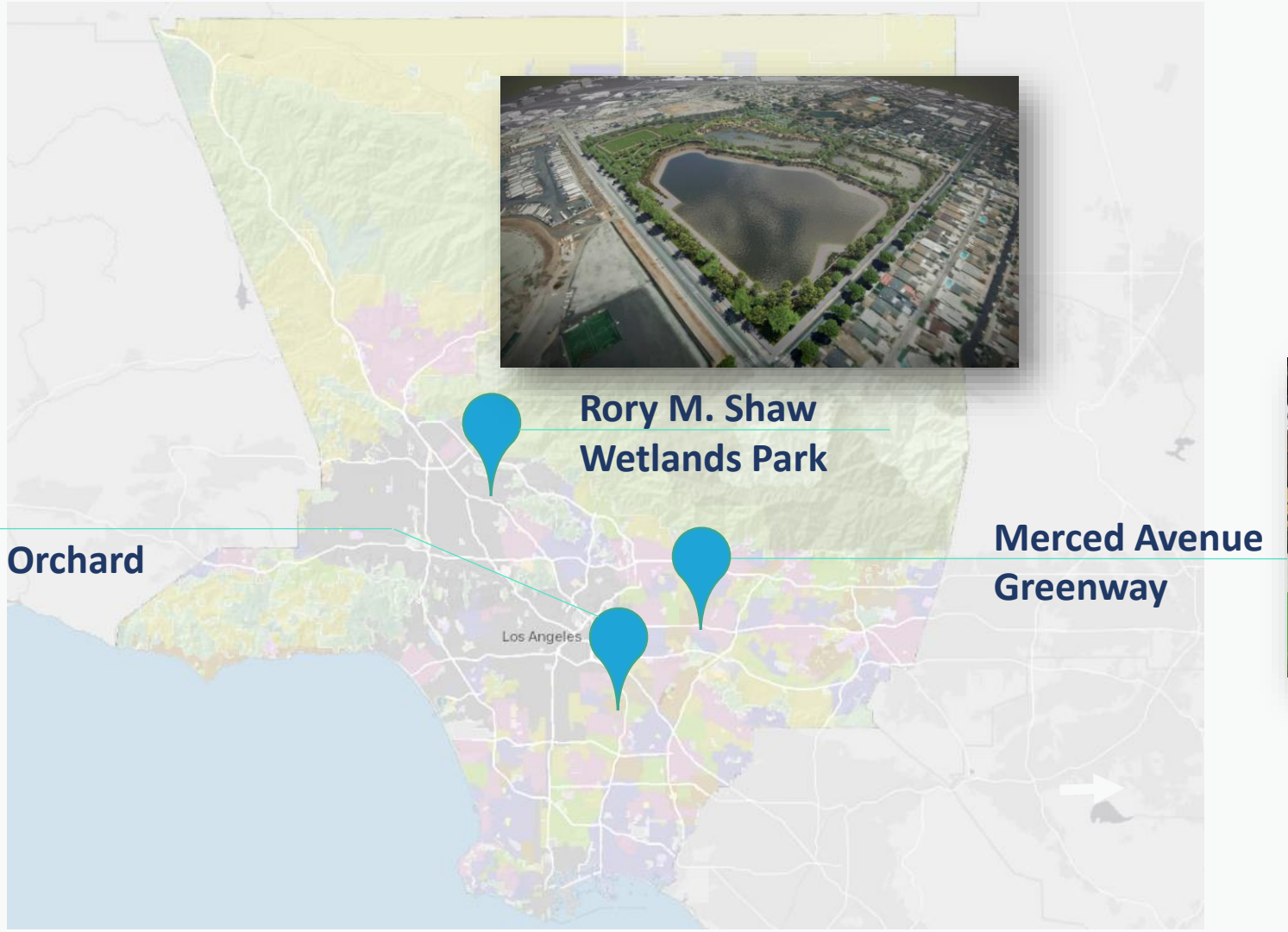
- Any Entity with a completed Feasibility Study
  - Including Feasibility Studies funded by the Technical Resources Program
- If Non-Municipality, requires letter of support from Municipality

Projects and Activities:

- Multi-benefit
- Watershed-based
- Design, construction, land acquisition, O&M, programs, and other eligible activities
- Projects must be included in an approved water quality plan (E/WMP, IRWM, etc.)

Infrastructure Program Projects – Examples

Urban Orchard



Rory M. Shaw
Wetlands Park

Merced Avenue
Greenway

Regional Program – Infrastructure Program Projects – Phased Applications

Project Applicants with <60% design plans can apply for:

- Design

-or-

Applicants with >60% Design plans can apply for:

- Design
- Construction
- Operation & Maintenance

Infrastructure Program – 19 Feasibility Study Requirements

1. Detailed description of the proposed Project
2. Description and estimate of the benefits provided
3. Estimated schedule
   - Include ALL project phases.
4. Review of effectiveness of similar types of Projects

Infrastructure Program – 19 Feasibility Study Requirements

5 Monitoring Plan

6 Lifecycle Cost Estimate and Schedule

- Calculated in the Project Module. Must include ALL project costs.

7 Operation and Maintenance Plan

8 Engineering Analysis

- Soil Sampling, Geotechnical Investigations, Hydrology Report, etc.

Infrastructure Program – 19 Feasibility Study Requirements

9 Potential CEQA-related and permitting challenges
- Include associated time requirement and cost.

10 Letter of Support from the Municipality
- Must include concurrence with the plan for O&M.

11 Outreach/Engagement Plan
- Outreach/engagement conducted to date and detailed plan for future.

12 Comply with any County-wide displacement goals

Infrastructure Program – 19 Feasibility Study Requirements

13	Vector Minimization Plan • Recommend review by local vector control district
14	Description of how Nature-Based Solutions are utilized
15	Summary of any legal requirements of obligations
16	Confirmation of conceptual approval from LACFCD

Infrastructure Program – 19 Feasibility Study Requirements

17 Acknowledgement of Eligible Expenditures
- Only those incurred on or after November 6, 2018

18 Leveraged Funds

19 Summary of how project will benefit Disadvantaged Communities (DAC)

Infrastructure Program – LAFCD Conceptual Approval

16 Confirmation of conceptual approval from LACFCD

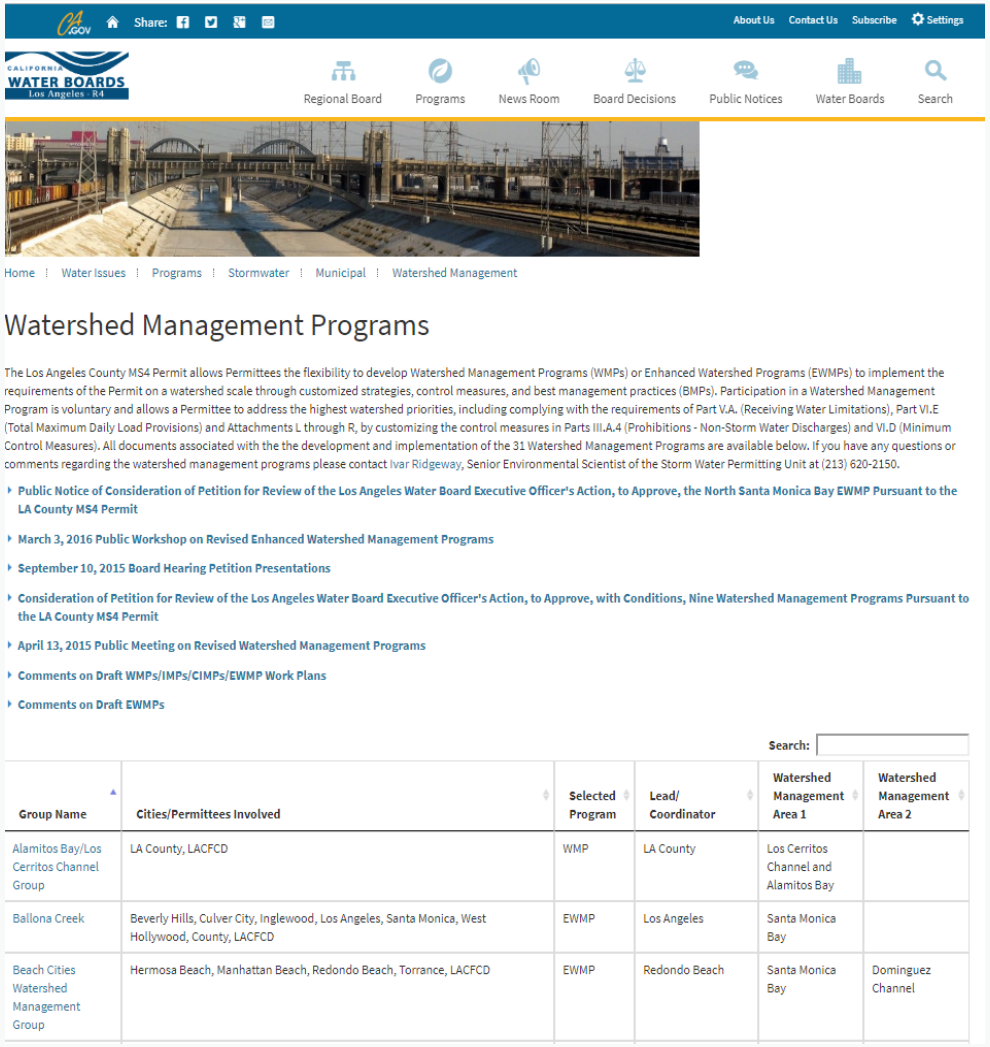
- Request confirmation of conceptual review from LACFCD no less than two months prior (May 31st, 2025)
- Contact LACFCD representative for each Watershed Area:
  - Central Santa Monica Bay, Lower San Gabriel River, North Santa Monica Bay, and South Santa Monica Bay (Marcela Benavides-Aguilar)
  - Lower Los Angeles River and Upper Los Angeles River (Ernesto Rivera)
  - Rio Hondo, Santa Clara River, and Upper San Gabriel River (Julian Juarez)
- Watershed Area Boundaries Map and Watershed Manager Contact Information
- Refer to Section 16 of the Supplemental Guidelines to Support Feasibility Study Guidelines

Infrastructure Program – Project Scoring Criteria

18.07.B.1.c. Only Projects meeting the following criteria shall be submitted to the Scoring Committee for evaluation:

- Projects for which a Feasibility Study (or equivalent) has been completed.
- Projects that are Multi-benefit Projects
- Projects that are included in a Regional Water Management Plan
  - Refer to Section 2 (Description) in the Supplemental Guidance to Support Feasibility Study Guidelines
  - Projects designed for a minimum useful life of 30 years.

Pathway to Inclusion in a Regional Water Management Plan



About Us Contact Us Subscribe Settings

CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS Los Angeles · R4

Regional Board | Programs | News Room | Board Decisions | Public Notices | Water Boards | Search

Home | Water Issues | Programs | Stormwater | Municipal | Watershed Management

Watershed Management Programs

The Los Angeles County MS4 Permit allows Permittees the flexibility to develop Watershed Management Programs (WMPs) or Enhanced Watershed Programs (EWMPs) to implement the requirements of the Permit on a watershed scale through customized strategies, control measures, and best management practices (BMPs). Participation in a Watershed Management Program is voluntary and allows a Permittee to address the highest watershed priorities, including complying with the requirements of Part V.A. (Receiving Water Limitations), Part VI.E (Total Maximum Daily Load Provisions) and Attachments L through R, by customizing the control measures in Parts III.A.4 (Prohibitions - Non-Storm Water Discharges) and VI.D (Minimum Control Measures). All documents associated with the the development and implementation of the 31 Watershed Management Programs are available below. If you have any questions or comments regarding the watershed management programs please contact Ivar Ridgeway, Senior Environmental Scientist of the Storm Water Permitting Unit at (213) 620-2150.

- Public Notice of Consideration of Petition for Review of the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer's Action, to Approve, the North Santa Monica Bay EWMP Pursuant to the LA County MS4 Permit
- March 3, 2016 Public Workshop on Revised Enhanced Watershed Management Programs
- September 10, 2015 Board Hearing Petition Presentations
- Consideration of Petition for Review of the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer's Action, to Approve, with Conditions, Nine Watershed Management Programs Pursuant to the LA County MS4 Permit
- April 13, 2015 Public Meeting on Revised Watershed Management Programs
- Comments on Draft WMPs/IMPs/CIMPs/EWMP Work Plans
- Comments on Draft EWMPs

Search:

Group Name	Cities/Permittees Involved	Selected Program	Lead/ Coordinator	Watershed Management Area 1	Watershed Management Area 2
Alamitos Bay/Los Cerritos Channel Group	LA County, LACFCD	WMP	LA County	Los Cerritos Channel and Alamitos Bay	
Ballona Creek	Beverly Hills, Culver City, Inglewood, Los Angeles, Santa Monica, West Hollywood, County, LACFCD	EWMP	Los Angeles	Santa Monica Bay	
Beach Cities Watershed Management Group	Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach, Torrance, LACFCD	EWMP	Redondo Beach	Santa Monica Bay	Dominguez Channel

WMP Process

- Contact lead Agency for the Watershed Management Programs
- Provide Project information
- New Projects can be included in the Adaptive Management section of the WMP annual report or the resubmittal of the WMP
- Adaptive Management of the Annual Report is due December 15 of every year. Resubmittal of the WMP is allowed at any time
- More information:
  - http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/watershed_management/

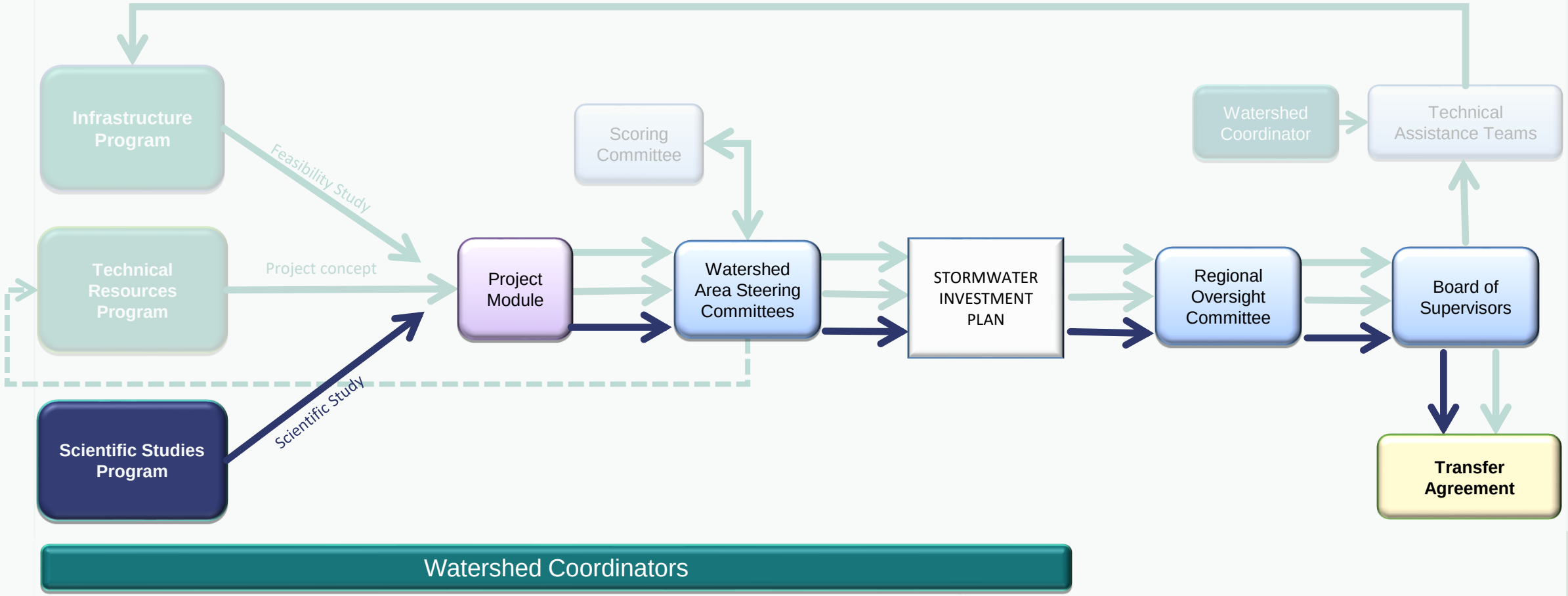
Pathway to Inclusion in a Regional Water Management Plan

Greater Los Angeles County Region
Integrated Regional Water Management

IRMWP Process

- Project Proponent must sign up through the GLAC IRWM OPTI webpage to become a new OPTI user
  - http://www.lawaterplan.org
- Must complete all required project information fields in the OPTI database
- The OPTI subregion Administrators and IRWM Administrators will be alerted of a new project entry
- Subregion OPTI Administrators may request proponent to attend subregion meeting to present the project to its members and stakeholders and answer any questions presented.
  - If project is determined to support the IRWMP objectives and there are no issues or concerns with the project, the subregion voting members cast vote to accept project as part of the IRWM Plan.
  - Upon approval, the OPTI Administrator completes OPTI information to verifying acceptance of project as part of the IRWM Plan and it becomes eligible for consideration for inclusion in future funding proposals.

Regional Program – Scientific Studies Program

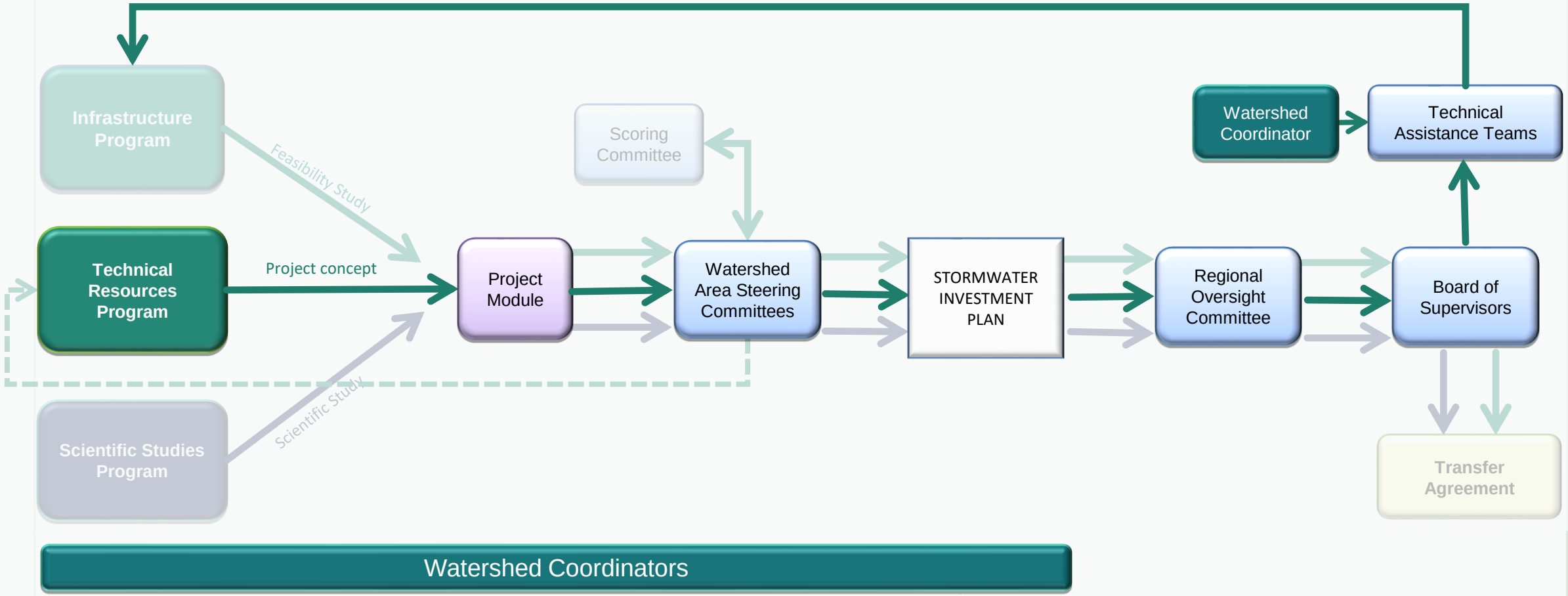


Regional Program – Scientific Studies Program



- Provide funding for eligible scientific and other activities, such as but not limited to:
  - Scientific studies
  - Technical studies
  - Monitoring
  - Modeling
  - Other similar activities
- Must be related to stormwater and urban runoff capture and pollution reduction

Regional Program – Technical Resources Program



Technical Resources Program

The Technical Resources Program (TRP) provides support to community groups, municipalities, and individuals who need assistance developing their project concepts and applications.

The TRP Provides:

- Dedicated **Watershed Coordinators** for each Watershed Area
- **Technical Assistance Teams** comprised of subject matter experts
- Funding and support for the development of **Feasibility Studies**
    - **New**: Funding award for TRP recipients: up to $400,000

Who should apply for the Technical Resources Program?

- If you have an idea for a Project, but need additional technical support:
  - Community groups *
  - Municipalities
  - Individuals *

What kinds of projects are being developed?

- Stormwater Project Concepts that improve water quality, increase local water supply, and provide community benefits
- Projects that prioritize Nature-Based Solutions and provide Disadvantaged Community Benefits are highly encouraged

* Non-municipal TRP applicants should provide Letter of Non-Objection from municipality

The Technical Resources Program does NOT:

- ✗ Award money to project proponents to conduct their own Feasibility Study or to hire a consultant to conduct a Feasibility Study on their behalf.
- ✗ Guarantee project eligibility for Infrastructure Program funding. Some projects may be deemed infeasible or impractical

What does being selected for Technical Resources Program support mean?

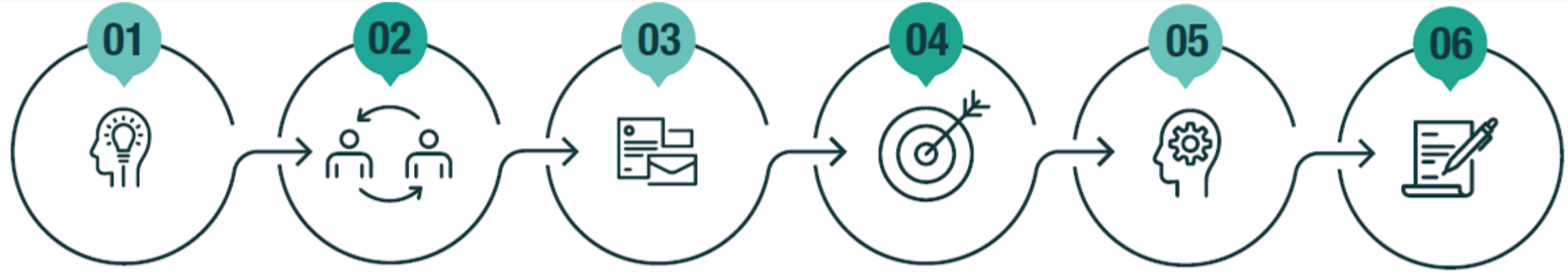
- A District **Technical Assistance Team (TAT)** is assembled, led by an assigned subject matter expert, to develop a Feasibility Study in partnership with and on behalf of the project proponent

- Completed Feasibility Studies will include the **nineteen required components** of an Infrastructure Program application:

1. Detailed description of the proposed project
2. Description and estimate of the benefits provided
3. Estimated schedule
4. Review of effectiveness of similar types of projects
5. Monitoring plans
6. Lifecycle cost estimate and schedule
7. Operations and maintenance plan
8. Engineering analysis
9. Potential CEQA-related and permitting challenges
10. Letter of Support or Letter of Non-Objection from the Municipality
11. Outreach/engagement plan
12. Compliance with any County-wide anti-displacement goals
13. Vector minimization plan
14. Description of how nature-based solutions are utilized
15. Summary of any legal requirements or obligations
16. Conceptual approval from LACFCD, if applicable
17. Acknowledgment of eligible expenditures
18. Summary of leveraged funds
19. Summary of how project will benefit disadvantaged communities

Technical Assistance

Technical Resources Program



01	02	03	04	05	06
Project idea!	Engage with **Watershed Coordinator** and municipality	Submit project concept and presents to WASC	Funding recommendation by WASC and ROC, then approval by Board	Assigned **Technical Assistance Teams** develop Feasibility Study	Feasibility study used to apply for Infrastructure Program

Anticipated Total Time Elapsed: 26 - 40 Months*

~6-8 months ~6-8 months ~10-24 months

If project is deemed infeasible or does not meet Safe, Clean Water Program requirements for Infrastructure Program funding, project proponent should not apply for Infrastructure Program funding.

Technical Resources Program – Example Projects

Green Streets Demonstration Project on Main Street

Edward Vincent Jr. Park Stormwater Improvements

Sorensen Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project

Watershed Coordinators

TASK	OUTCOMES
1. Facilitate Community Engagement in SCWP	…sustained community engagement…
2. Identify and Develop Project Concepts	…projects that fulfill program goals…
3. Work with Technical Assistance Teams	…contribute to technical assistance…
4. Facilitate Identification and Representation of Community Priorities	…addressing community priorities…
5. Integrate Priorities Through Partnerships and Extensive Networks	…share lessons learned…
6. Cost-Share Partners	…identify cost-sharing for projects…
7. Leverage Funding	…identify funding…
8. Local Stakeholder Education	…conduct education for communities…
9. Watershed Coordinator Collaboration	…ensure consistency across SCWP…

Watershed Coordinators

WATERSHED AREA	WATERSHED COORDINATORS
Central Santa Monica Bay	Heal the Bay, S. Groner Associates, Inc.
Lower Los Angeles River	S. Groner Associates, Inc.
Lower San Gabriel River	OhanaVets, Inc.
North Santa Monica Bay	Melina Sempill Watts Consulting, LLC
Rio Hondo	Richard Watson & Associates, Inc.
Santa Clara River	TreePeople, Inc.
South Santa Monica Bay	Heal the Bay
Upper Los Angeles River	Council for Watershed Health (2); Environmental Outreach Strategies
Upper San Gabriel River	Day One Inc.

*Positions are dependent on revenue and population

Duties and responsibilities centered around connecting potential Regional Program applicants with technical resources and building inclusion and meaningful engagement in pursuit of SCW Program Goals

Find Your Watershed Tool

Scoring Criteria

Infrastructure Program

Scoring Criteria – Overview

All Regional Infrastructure Program Projects must meet the Threshold Score of 60 points or more.

Section	Score Range
A.1 Wet + Dry Weather Water Quality Benefits	50 points max
-OR-	
A.2 Dry Weather Only Water Quality Benefits	40 points max
B. Significant Water Supply Benefits	25 points max
C. Community Investments Benefits	10 points max
D. Nature-Based Solutions	15 points max
E. Leveraging Funds and Community Support	10 points max
TOTAL	**110 points**

Scoring Criteria – Water Quality Benefits

A.1 Wet + Dry Weather Water Quality Benefits	50 points max	The Project provides water quality benefits
	20 points max	A.1.1: For Wet Weather BMPs Only: Water Quality Cost Effectiveness (Cost Effectiveness) = (24-hour BMP Capacity)[1] / (Capital Cost in $Millions) * • <0.4 (acre feet capacity / $-Million) = 0 points • 0.4-0.6 (acre feet capacity / $-Million) = 7 points • 0.6-0.8 (acre feet capacity / $-Million) = 11 points • 0.8-1.0 (acre feet capacity / $-Million) = 14 points • >1.0 (acre feet capacity / $-Million) = 20 points [1]. *Management of the 24-hour event is considered the maximum capacity of a Project for a 24-hour period. For water quality focused Projects, this would typically be the 85th percentile design storm capacity. Units are in acre-feet (AF).*
- OR -	30 points max	A.1.2: For Wet Weather BMPs Only: Water Quality Benefit - Quantify the pollutant reduction (i.e. concentration, load, exceedance day, etc.) for a class of pollutants using a similar analysis as the E/WMP which uses the Districts Watershed Management Modeling System (WMMS). The analysis should be an average percent reduction comparing influent and effluent for the class of pollutant over a ten-year period showing the impact of the Project. Modeling should include the latest performance data to reflect the efficiency of the BMP type. <u>Primary Class of Pollutants</u> • >50% = 15 points • >80%= 20 points *(20 Points Max)* <u>Second or More Classes of Pollutant</u> • >50% = 5 points • >80%= 10 points (10 Points Max)
A.2 Dry Weather Only Water Quality Benefits	20 points	A.2.1: For dry weather BMPs only, Projects must be designed to capture, infiltrate, treat and release, or divert 100% (unless infeasible or prohibited for habitat, etc) of all tributary dry weather flows.
	20 points max	A.2.2: For Dry Weather BMPs Only. Tributary Size of the Dry Weather BMP • <200 Acres = 10 points • >200 Acres = 20 points

Section A.1
Applies to any Water Quality Projects

Section A.2
- Projects designed for 0.25-inch rain events or below.
- Must capture, infiltrate, or divert 100% dry weather flows.

* Note that Section A.1 the Water Quality Cost Effective calculation in the project module uses Construction Cost and not Capital Cost

Scoring Criteria – Water Quality Benefits (A.1.2)

		Pick Any One Primary Pollutant Class and Any One Secondary Pollutant Class		
Pollutant Class	**Pollutant Name**	**Method 1 (% Concentration Reduction)**	**Method 2 (% Load Reduction)**	**Method 3 (% Exceedance Day Reduction)**
Primary or Secondary	Bacteria	✔	✔	✔
	Metals	✔	✔	
	Toxics		✔	
	Nutrients	✔	✔	
	Chloride	✔	✔	
Secondary	Trash		✔	✔
	Bacteria	✔	✔	✔
	Metals	✔	✔	
	Toxics		✔	
	Nutrients	✔	✔	
	Chloride	✔	✔	

Notes:
-The Secondary Pollutant Class includes all primary pollutants with the addition of trash (NOTE: the primary pollutant class cannot be the same as the secondary pollutant class).
-Primary and secondary pollutants are pollutants subject to TMDLs for the nearby downstream receiving waters of the project.
-Secondary pollutants may also include 303(d)-listed pollutants and pollutants that have been subject to exceedances during recent monitoring programs.
-Trash is not considered a valid primary pollutant. For estimate of trash reduction, the analysis can demonstrate equivalence with the Full Capture System definition for 100% reduction.

Long-term pollutant reduction can be calculated in the Project Module through the Watershed Management Modeling System (WMMS)

lacountywmms.com

Scoring Criteria – Water Quality Scoring Pilot Adaptation (Optional)

Section	Score Range	Scoring Standards
A.1 Wet + Dry Weather Water Quality Benefits	50 points max	The Project provides water quality benefits
	20 points max	A.1.1 : For Wet Weather BMPs Only: Water Quality Cost Effectiveness (Cost Effectiveness) = (24-hour BMP Capacity)[1] / (Capital Cost in $Millions) • < 0.12 = 0 points • 0.12–0.169 = 1 point • 0.17–0.219 = 2 points • 0.22–0.259 = 3 points • 0.26–0.309 = 4 points • 0.31–0.349 = 5 points • 0.35–0.399 = 6 points • 0.40–0.449 = 7 points • 0.45–0.489 = 8 points • 0.49–0.539 = 9 points • 0.54–0.579 = 10 points • 0.58–0.629 = 11 points • 0.63–0.679 = 12 points • 0.68–0.719 = 13 points • 0.72–0.769 = 14 points • 0.77–0.819 = 15 points • 0.82–0.859 = 16 points • 0.86–0.909 = 17 points • 0.91–0.949 = 18 points • 0.95–0.999 = 19 points • ≥ 1.000 = 20 points *(20 Points Max)* *[1]. Management of the 24-hour event is considered the maximum volume managed by a Project during a 24-hour, 85th percentile design storm event. Units are in acre-feet (AF).*

- 85th percentile storm capture volume
- More granularity by having 1-point increments
- Scoring Committee will take the alternate scoring pilot into consideration
- Attachment A of Supplemental Guidance to Support Feasibility Study Guidelines

Scoring Criteria – Water Quality Scoring Pilot Adaptation (Optional)

Section	Score Range	Scoring Standards
Wet + Dry Weather Water Quality Benefits **- OR -**	30 points max	A.1.2: For Wet Weather BMPs Only: Water Quality Benefit - Quantify the pollutant reduction (i.e. concentration, load, exceedance day, etc.) for a class of pollutants using a similar analysis as the E/WMP which uses the Districts Watershed Management Modeling System (WMMS). The analysis should be an average percent reduction comparing influent and effluent for the class of pollutant over a ten-year period showing the impact of the Project. Modeling should include the latest performance data to reflect the efficiency of the BMP type. Primary Class of Pollutants • < 3.0% = 0 points • 3.1–6.9% = 1 point • 7.0–9.9% = 2 points • 10.0–12.9% = 3 points • 13.0–16.9% = 4 point • 17.0–19.9% = 5 points • 20.0–22.9% = 6 points • 23.0–26.9% = 7 points • 27.0–29.9% = 8 points • 30.0–32.9% = 9 points • 33.0–36.9% = 10 points • 37.0–39.9% = 11 points • 40.0–42.9% = 12 points • 43.0–46.9% = 13 points • 47.0–49.9% = 14 points • 50.0–55.9% = 15 points • 56.0–61.9% = 16 points • 62.0–67.9% = 17 points • 68.0–73.9% = 18 points • 74.0–79.9% = 19 points • ≥ 80.0% = 20 points *(20 Points Max)* Second or More Classes of Pollutant • < 10.0% = 0 points • 10.0–19.9% = 1 point • 20.0–29.9% = 2 points • 30.0–39.9% = 3 points • 40.0–49.9% = 4 points • 50.0–55.9% = 5 points • 56.0–61.9% = 6 points • 62.0–67.9% = 7 points • 68.0–73.9% = 8 points • 74.0–79.9% = 9 points • ≥ 80.0% = 10 points (10 Points Max)

A.2 Dry Weather Only Water Quality Benefits	20 points	A.2.1: For dry weather BMPs only, Projects must be designed to capture, infiltrate, treat and release, or divert 100% (unless infeasible or prohibited for habitat, etc) of all tributary dry weather flows.
	20 points max	A.2.2: For Dry Weather BMPs Only. Tributary Size of the Dry Weather BMP • < 20.0 Acres = 10 points • 20.0–39.9 Acres = 11 points • 40.0–59.9 Acres = 12 points • 60.0–79.9 Acres = 13 points • 80.0–99.9 Acres = 14 points • 100.0–119.9 Acres = 15 points • 120.0–139.9 Acres = 16 points • 140.0–159.9 Acres = 17 points • 160.0–179.9 Acres = 18 points • 180.0–199.9 Acres = 19 points • ≥ 200.0 Acres = 20 points *(20 Points Max)*

Scoring Criteria – Water Supply Benefits

B. Significant Water Supply Benefits	25 points max	The Project provides water re-use and/or water supply enhancement benefits
	13 points max	B1. Water Supply Cost Effectiveness. The Total Life-Cycle Cost[2] per unit of acre foot of Stormwater and/or Urban Runoff volume captured for water supply is: • >$2500/ac-ft = 0 points • $2,000–2,500/ac-ft = 3 points • $1500-2,000/ac-ft = 6 points • $1000–1500/ac-ft = 10 points • <$1000/ac-ft = 13 points *[2]. Total Life-Cycle Cost: The annualized value of all Capital, planning, design, land acquisition, construction, and total life O&M costs for the Project for the entire life span of the Project (e.g. 50-year design life span should account for 50-years of O&M). The annualized cost is used over the present value to provide a preference to Projects with longer life spans.*
	12 points max	B2. Water Supply Benefit Magnitude. The yearly additional water supply volume resulting from the Project is: • <25 ac-ft/year = 0 points • 25 - 100 ac-ft/year = 2 points • 100 - 200 ac-ft/year = 5 points • 200 - 300 ac-ft/year = 9 points • >300 ac-ft/year = 12 points

Typically for spreading facilities or diversions to sanitary sewer for recycled water.

Refer to 2025 Interim Guidance for Water Supply Guidance.

Scoring Criteria – Water Supply Scoring Pilot Adaptation (Optional)

Section	Score Range	Scoring Standards
B. Significant Water Supply Benefits	25 points max	The Project provides water re-use and/or water supply enhancement benefits
	13 points max	B1. Water Supply Cost Effectiveness. The Total Life-Cycle Cost[2] per unit of acre foot of Stormwater and/or Urban Runoff volume captured for water supply is: • ≥ $77,910.00/ac-ft = 1 point • $77,909.99 – $37,950.00/ac-ft = 2 points • $37,949.99 – $24,280.00/ac-ft = 3 points • $24,279.99 – $16,300.00/ac-ft = 4 points • $16,299.99 – $11,950.00/ac-ft = 5 points • $11,949.99 – $8,850.00/ac-ft = 6 points • $8,849.99 – $6,930.00/ac-ft = 7 points • $6,929.99 – $5,280.00/ac-ft = 8 points • $5,279.99 – $3,590.00/ac-ft = 9 points • $3,589.99 – $2,390.00/ac-ft = 10 points • $2,389.99 – $1,830.00/ac-ft = 11 points • $1,829.99 – $963.00/ac-ft = 12 points • < $963.00/ac-ft = 13 points [2]. *Total Life-Cycle Cost: The annualized value of all Capital, planning, design, land acquisition, construction, and total life O&M costs for the Project for the entire life span of the Project (e.g. 50-year design life span should account for 50-years of O&M). The annualized cost is used over the present value to provide a preference to Projects with longer life spans.*
	12 points max	B2. Water Supply Benefit Magnitude. The yearly additional water supply volume resulting from the Project is: • < 3.0 ac-ft/year = 1 point • 3.0 – 6.9 ac-ft/year = 2 points • 7.0 – 16.9 ac-ft/year = 3 points • 17.0 – 37.9 ac-ft/year = 4 points • 38.0 – 71.9 ac-ft/year = 5 points • 72.0 – 103.9 ac-ft/year = 6 points • 104.0 – 144.9 ac-ft/year = 7 points • 145.0 – 178.9 ac-ft/year = 8 points • 179.0 – 236.9 ac-ft/year = 9 points • 237.0 – 343.9 ac-ft/year = 10 points • 344.0 – 667.9 ac-ft/year = 11 points • ≥ 668.0 ac-ft/year = 12 points

- Evenly scales scoring criteria across the range of expected project performance from past SCWP Projects
- More granularity by having 1-point increments
- Scoring Committee will take the alternate scoring pilot into consideration
- Attachment B of Supplemental Guidance to Support Feasibility Study Guidelines

Scoring Criteria – Community Investment Benefits

Section	Score Range	Scoring Standards
C. Community Investments Benefits	10 points max	The Project provides Community Investment Benefits
	10 points	C1. Project includes: • One of the Community Investment Benefits identified below = 2 points • Three distinct Community Investment Benefits identified below = 5 points • Six distinct Community Investment Benefits identified below = 10 points Community Investment Benefits include: • Improved flood management, flood conveyance, or flood risk mitigation • Creation, enhancement, or restoration of parks, habitat, or wetlands • Improved public access to waterways • Enhanced or new recreational opportunities • Greening of schools • Reducing local heat island effect and increasing shade • Increasing the number of trees increase and/or other vegetation at the site location that will increase carbon reduction/sequestration and improve air quality.

Explanation must include supporting analysis and information

Scoring Criteria – Nature-Based Solutions

D. Nature-Based Solutions	15 points max	The Project implements Nature-Based Solutions
	15 points	D1. Project: • Implements natural processes or mimics natural processes to slow, detain, capture, and absorb/infiltrate water in a manner that protects, enhances and/or restores habitat, green space and/or usable open space = 5 points • Utilizes natural materials such as soils and vegetation with a preference for native vegetation = 5 points • Removes Impermeable Area from Project (1 point per 20% paved area removed) = 5 points

If Nature-Based Solutions are not utilized, include an explanation, with supporting analysis and information of why it is not feasible to do so.

Refer to 2025 Interim Guidance for Programming of Nature-Based Solutions.

Scoring Criteria – Leveraging Funds & Community Support

E. Leveraging Funds and Community Support	10 points max	The Project achieves one or more of the following:
	6 points max	E1. Cost-Share. Additional Funding has been awarded for the Project. • >25% Funding Matched = 3 points • >50% Funding Matched = 6 points
	4 points	E2. The Project demonstrates strong local, community-based support and/or has been developed as part of a partnership with local NGOs/CBOs.

Other funding sources could include funds from the SCW Municipal Program, Grants, Partnerships, etc.

Refer to 2025 Interim Guidance for Strengthening Community Engagement and Support

Scoring Criteria – Water Quality Benefits (Definition, Tips, and Example)

Definition

- Project components that capture, infiltrate, divert, or treat and release stormwater or urban runoff for either wet- or dry-weather flows

Tips

- Projects Module now allows for modeling treatment trains of Projects to estimate net runoff capture
- Projects Module now generates an estimate of runoff captured during an 85th percentile, 24-hour storm event for defining projects as Wet or Dry Weather BMPs
- **Explain all assumptions**
- Projects Module has a button to submit your work and calcs – be sure to use this feature!

Example

Strathern North Stormwater Capture Project

Benefits include:

- Utilizes a hydrodynamic separator to separate and trap trash, debris, sediment, oil, grease, and fine particulates from stormwater runoff
- Captures and infiltrates the entirety of the 85th-percentile storm from two tributary areas

Scoring Criteria – Water Supply Benefits (Definition, Tips, and Example)

Definition

- Project components that capture stormwater or urban water runoff for reuse onsite or to augment existing water supplies through infiltration or diversion
- “New” water has been defined in the 2025 Interim Guidance

Tips

- Provide a **note from the Watermaster or purveyor** proving that the project will recharge water
- Provide **proof of dry weather flow**: monitoring data over several months (preferred), nearby stream gauge, or studies showing flow for different types of land use

Example

Rory M. Shaw Wetlands Park Project

Benefits include:

- Detention pond holding ~1,880 acre-feet of collected runoff from the upstream tributary area
- Cooperative agreement between LADWP and project applicant (LACFCD) showing the acceptance of the project

Scoring Criteria – Community Investment Benefits (Definition, Tips, and Example)

Definition

- Community investment benefits include the components of a project that improve the public health and well-being of the surrounding community, such as flood management, creation of green space, and more

Tips

- Be **specific** about (and **quantify** whenever possible!) the community **NEEDS** being addressed (e.g., flooding, heat) & how the project will **ADDRESS** those needs (e.g., # of trees or canopy coverage; # of visitors to park)
- Provide concise and easy-to-understand (pictures, graphics) **back-up** in **appropriate** section where possible (e.g., rendering of plantings, pictures of flooding, etc.)

Example

Urban Orchard Project

Benefits include:

- Creation of new green space via the transformation of 30 acres of brownfields into a park
- Creation of new recreational spaces via the construction of a new education garden and 196-tree orchard
- Creation of new habitat for native fish via construction of a wetland

Scoring Criteria – Nature-Based Solutions (Definition, Tips, and Example)

Definition

- Nature-based solutions means a Project that utilizes natural processes that slow, detain, infiltrate or filter Stormwater or Urban Runoff

Tips

- **Identify specific components** of project that implement or mimic natural processes and whether each is **nature-based OR nature mimicking**
- **Quantify** nature-based solution elements (e.g., square feet of bioswale; acres of wetland; etc.)
- Include quantification in NBS section, not just in attachments

Example

Merced Ave Greenway (Phase I-South Residential Corridor)

Nature-based Solutions include:

- Bioretention and biofiltration
  - 6,830 ft² bioretention BMPs: nature-based
  - 11,078 ft² of plantings (132 trees and 2900 shrubs): nature-based
  - 10,420 ft² of permeable pavement: nature mimicking
  - Hardscape removal: 0.7 acres

Scoring Criteria – Community Support (Definition, Tips, and Example)

Definition

- Support from and/or partnerships with the local community as a result of engagement throughout project development

Tips

- Remember: outreach TO communities is different from support **FROM** or partnerships **WITH** communities
- When showing community support, provide evidence of **partnerships with NGOs**, or **compelling evidence** that project enjoys **widespread community support** (e.g., multiple letters of support from diverse constituencies within the community; public polling; documentation that the community helped inform the project)
- Be **specific** and **quantify** the community engagement that has occurred (e.g., how many meetings were held and how many participated in each meeting)

Scoring Criteria – Community Support (Definition, Tips, and Example)

Example

Bowtie Demonstration Project

Support includes:

- Engaged over 2,000 individuals through in-person community events and a community survey in 1 year
- Outreach to local organizations and community groups, direct outreach at community events, door-to-door canvassing, workshops, and social media and email communications
- Partners and/or supports by local community groups (Prevention Institute, Mujeres de la Tierra, Friends of the LA River, Kizh- Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians, 100 Acre Partnership, and Neighborhood Councils)
- 12 letters of support

Example

Beach Cities Green Streets Project

Support includes:

- Over 20 community meetings
- Site signage, project website, social media and email communications, direct mailing, door-to-door canvassing, and community meetings
- Focus groups with local community groups (South Bay Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation, Neighborhood Watch groups, and homeowner associations)
- 2-way engagement: 3 phases of engagement during design (conceptual design, design details, and final design)

Stormwater Investment Plans

(SIPs)

Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs)

Current Year Budget:

- 5-year plan
- Assign funding for projects in the:
  - Infrastructure Program
  - Technical Resources Program
  - Scientific Studies Program
- Budget for current year is transferred to Project Developers subject to the Transfer Agreement

	(FY 26-27) Regional Program Budget	(FY 27-28) Projection	(FY 28-29) Projection	(FY 29-30) Projection	(FY 30-31) Projection
Infrastructure Program (not less than 85%)					
Project 1					
Project 2					
Project 3					
Project 4					
Project 5					
Scientific Studies (up to 5%)					
Scientific Study					
Scientific Study 2					
Technical Resources Program (up to 10%)					
Project Concept 1					
Project Concept 2					
Project Concept 3					
Watershed Coordinator					
Grand Total					

Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs)

Subsequent 4 Year Projections:

- Conditional funding for full Project cost
- Watershed Area Steering Committees will verify annually:
  - Project schedule, budget, scope and benefits are consistent with initial proposal
- Projects over budget, behind schedule, or reduced scope or benefits may be subject to discontinued funding

	(FY 26-27) Regional Program Budget	(FY 27-28) Projection	(FY 28-29) Projection	(FY 29-30) Projection	(FY 30-31) Projection
Infrastructure Program (not less than 85%)					
Project 1					
Project 2					
Project 3					
Project 4					
Project 5					
Scientific Studies (up to 5%)					
Scientific Study					
Scientific Study 2					
Technical Resources Program (up to 10%)					
Project Concept 1					
Project Concept 2					
Project Concept 3					
Watershed Coordinator					
Grand Total					

SIP Criteria

A. **Not less than 85**% of the budget shall be allocated to Infrastructure Program activities, **not more than 10%** of the budget shall be allocated to Technical Resource Program activities, and **not more than 5%** of the budget shall be allocated to Scientific Studies Program activities;

B. Projects that assist in achieving compliance with a **MS4 Permit** shall be prioritized, to the extent feasible;

C. Funding for Projects that provide **DAC Benefits shall not be less than one hundred and ten percent** (110%) of the ratio of the DAC population to the total population in each Watershed Area. To facilitate compliance with this requirement, the District will work with stakeholders and Watershed Coordinator(s) to utilize existing tools to identify high-priority geographies for water-quality improvement projects and other projects that create DAC Benefits within DACs, to help inform WASCs as they consider project recommendations;

D. Each **Municipality shall receive benefits in proportion to the funds generated within their jurisdiction**, after accounting for allocation of the one hundred ten percent (110%) return to DACs, to the extent feasible, to be evaluated annually over a rolling five (5) year period;

Reference: Section 18.07.2 of the Safe, Clean Water Program Implementation Ordinance

SIP Criteria (continued)

E. A spectrum of **Project types and sizes** shall be implemented throughout the region, to the extent feasible, to be evaluated annually over a rolling five (5) year period;

F. **Nature-Based Solutions** shall be prioritized, to the extent feasible;

G. Projects, Feasibility Studies, scientific and technical studies, and other activities selected for inclusion in a SIP should be recommended to receive funding for their **total estimated costs**, unless a lesser amount has been requested;

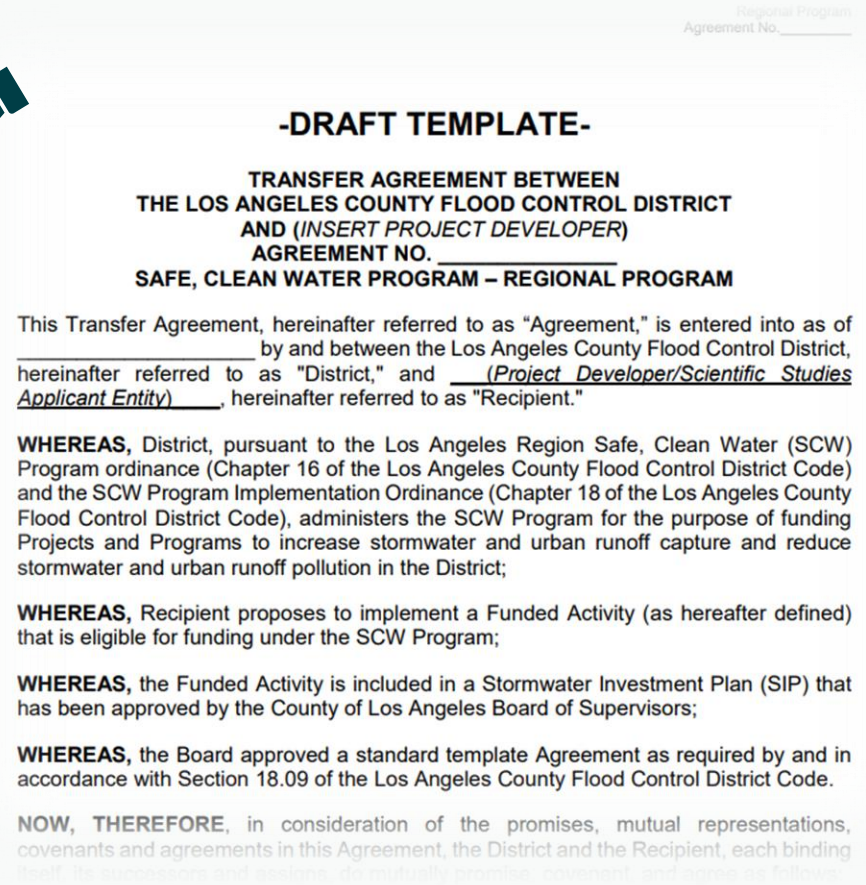
H. **Operation and maintenance** costs for any Project may be included in the Infrastructure Program portion of a SIP, whether or not the design and construction of that Project was included in a SIP; and

I. Only Projects that **meet or exceed the Threshold Score** shall be eligible for inclusion in the Infrastructure Program. Projects that receive a score below the Threshold Score may be referred to the Technical Resources Program at the discretion of the Watershed Area Steering Committee.

Reference: Section 18.07.2 of the Safe, Clean Water Program Implementation Ordinance

Regional Program Transfer Agreements

- **Funds are typically disbursed within 45-days of receipt of the fully executed transfer agreement by both parties, pending completion of all required documentation, including:**
  - Exhibit A – Scope of Work
  - Resolution/Authorization
  - Infrastructure Program Project Developer (IPPD) Form
  - CEQA approval, if applicable
- Sample Transfer Agreement available on SCW website; Actual Transfer Agreement will be provided by the District for signature



Regional Program
Agreement No. _____

-DRAFT TEMPLATE-

TRANSFER AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT
AND (*INSERT PROJECT DEVELOPER*)
AGREEMENT NO. _____
SAFE, CLEAN WATER PROGRAM – REGIONAL PROGRAM

This Transfer Agreement, hereinafter referred to as "Agreement," is entered into as of _____ by and between the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, hereinafter referred to as "District," and ___*(Project Developer/Scientific Studies Applicant Entity)*____, hereinafter referred to as "Recipient."

WHEREAS, District, pursuant to the Los Angeles Region Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program ordinance (Chapter 16 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code) and the SCW Program Implementation Ordinance (Chapter 18 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code), administers the SCW Program for the purpose of funding Projects and Programs to increase stormwater and urban runoff capture and reduce stormwater and urban runoff pollution in the District;

WHEREAS, Recipient proposes to implement a Funded Activity (as hereafter defined) that is eligible for funding under the SCW Program;

WHEREAS, the Funded Activity is included in a Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) that has been approved by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors;

WHEREAS, the Board approved a standard template Agreement as required by and in accordance with Section 18.09 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises, mutual representations, covenants and agreements in this Agreement, the District and the Recipient, each binding itself, its successors and assigns, do mutually promise, covenant, and agree as follows:

Guidance Documents

Guidance to provide information related to best practices and additional clarity on select issues

2025 Interim Guidance

- Safe, Clean Water Program staff updated the Interim Guidance in 2025 to help facilitate Call for Projects and each component includes a brief vision for future guidance.
- 2025 Interim Guidance
  - Strengthening Community Engagement and Support
  - Water Supply
  - Programming of Nature-Based Solutions
  - Implementing Disadvantaged Community Policies
- Other program aspects continue to be clarified or addressed through on-going adaptive management.

Strengthening Community Engagement and Support

This guidance includes:

1. Engagement Prior to Application
2. Engagement Plan for Project Implementation

Infrastructure Program Funds	Required Activity 1	Required Activity 2	Example Outreach Activity	Example Engagement Activity	Example Outreach Content
Up to $2 M	Outreach or Engagement	--	Distribution of informational materials to community via signage, online media, and/or grassroots efforts	Attendance/ presentation at Public Forums / Community Meetings	Project planning and implementation progress and schedule updates Project features and benefits
Up to $10 M	Outreach	≥ 1 Engagement	Distribution of informational materials to community via signage, online media, local media and/or grassroots efforts Earned media coverage	Attendance/ presentation at Public Forums / Community Meetings/City Council / Board of Supervisors Meetings	Project planning and implementation progress and schedule updates specific to planning / design phases Focused outreach to minimize potential construction phase impacts to the community and public-at-large
Over $10 M	Outreach	≥ 2 Engagements	Distribution of informational materials to community via signage, online media, local media and/or grassroots efforts	Attendance/ presentation at Public Forums / Community Meetings/City Council / Board of Supervisors Meetings	Targeted phase-specific project progress and schedule updates Focused outreach to minimize potential construction phase impacts to the community and public-at-large

Water Supply Guidance

1. Establishes shared vocabulary
2. Clarifies characterization of Water Supply Benefits
3. Provides guidance to the Scoring Committee
4. Provides guidance to the nine Watershed Area Steering Committees

Tools and strategies are available for WASCs and WCs in determining the appropriateness of a project's claim of providing Water Supply Benefits over the course of a project's lifecycle:

During Project Evaluation:

- **Justifications:** Read the justification provided in the application, submitted Feasibility Study, and scoring rubric about Water Supply Benefits claimed for the project, including how the project creates locally available water supply.
- **Assurances:** Where applicable, review applications for assurance that infiltrated water reaches an aquifer managed for beneficial use through demonstration of high infiltration potential or proximity to a water reclamation facility.
- **Inquiries:** During presentations by Project Applicants, ask follow-up questions about the Water Supply Benefits claimed for the project, as appropriate.
- **Assessments:** Use the forthcoming Watershed Area Planning Tool to assess Water Supply Benefits provided by projects in comparison to Watershed Area targets.

At any time:

- **Descriptions:** Ask WC(s) to evaluate and report to the WASC how the community, public agencies, and other interested parties would describe the preferred Water Supply Benefits in the Watershed Area (i.e., desired outcomes and watershed-specific goals).
- **Presentations:** Invite informational presentations from agencies, organizations, and other interested parties to better understand potential Water Supply Benefits sought and challenges faced in the Watershed Area.

Programming of Nature-Based Solutions

The guidance clarifies how best to prioritize Nature-Based Solutions by:

1. Establishing a shared vocabulary.
2. Providing guidance to the nine WASCs.
3. Clarifying how project developer can support program goal.
4. Highlight how the Feasibility Study requirements and the Projects Module support Project proponents and WASCs in the prioritization of Nature-Based Solutions.

Implementing Disadvantaged Community Policies

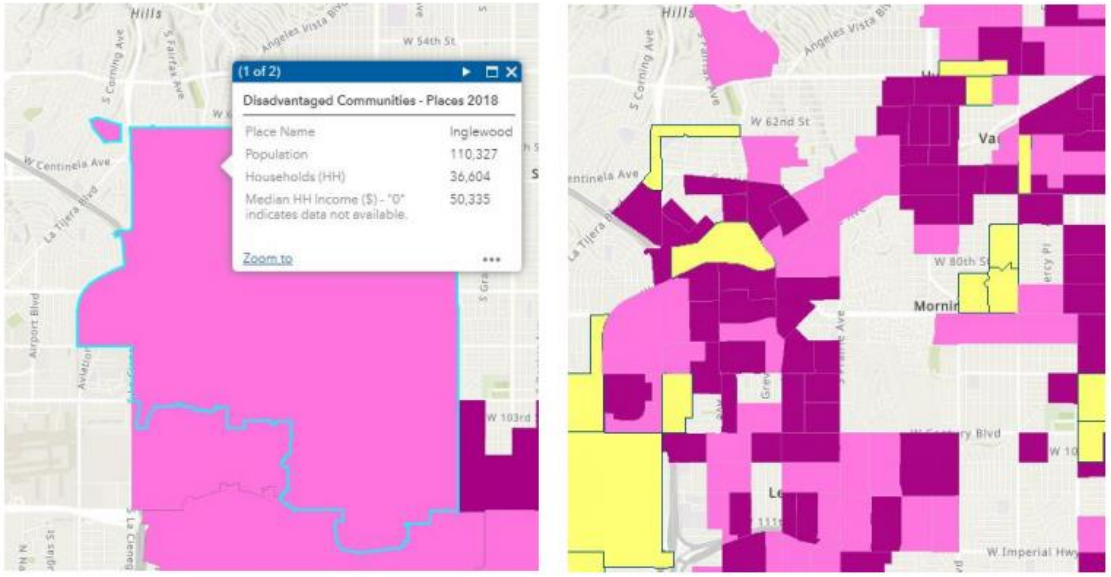
1. Clarification of how to interpret and demonstrate project's ability to deliver DAC Benefits

2. Procedures for consistently accounting for the 110% SIP provisions

3. Considerations to inform deliberation and discussion

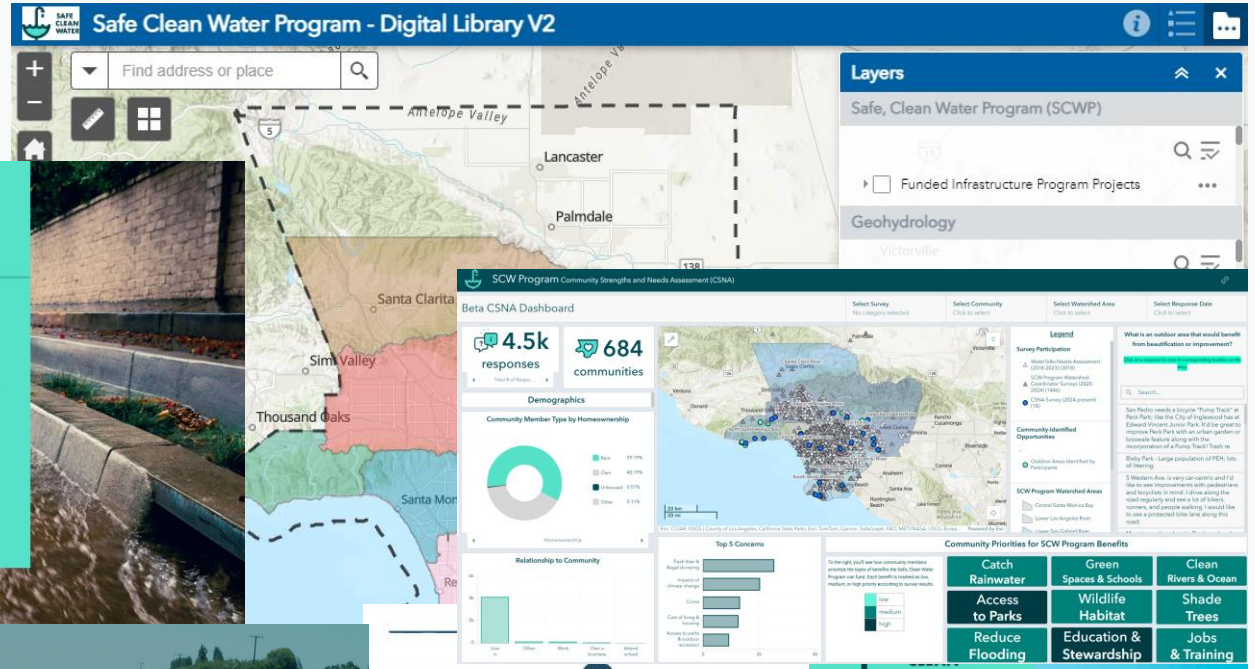
Inglewood Example

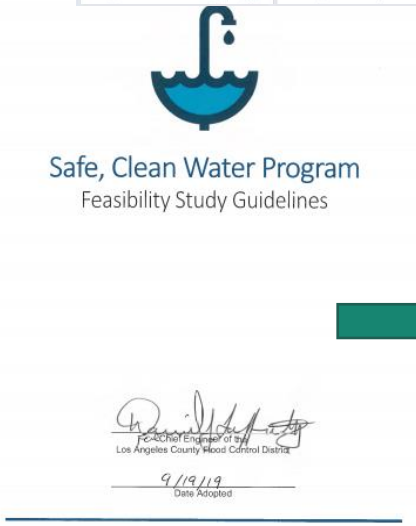
If you calculate the median household income for the city of Inglewood as a Census Place (Figure 1), you find that the city has a median household income below 80% of the statewide median household income, and therefore can be considered a disadvantaged community. However, when you review the many Census Block Groups within the city of Inglewood (Figure 2), you find that some are considered disadvantaged, some severely disadvantaged (defined in the State Water Code as having a median household income below 60% of the statewide median household income), and some are neither.

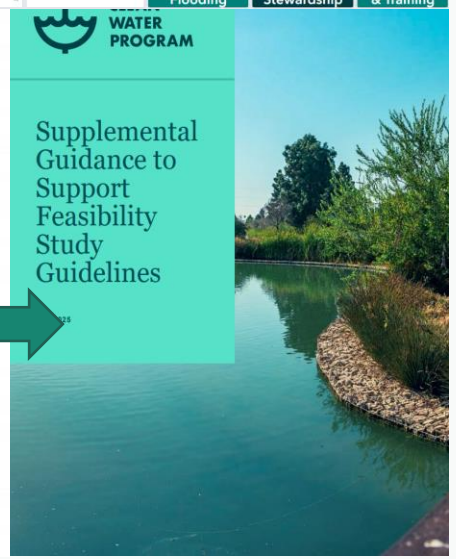


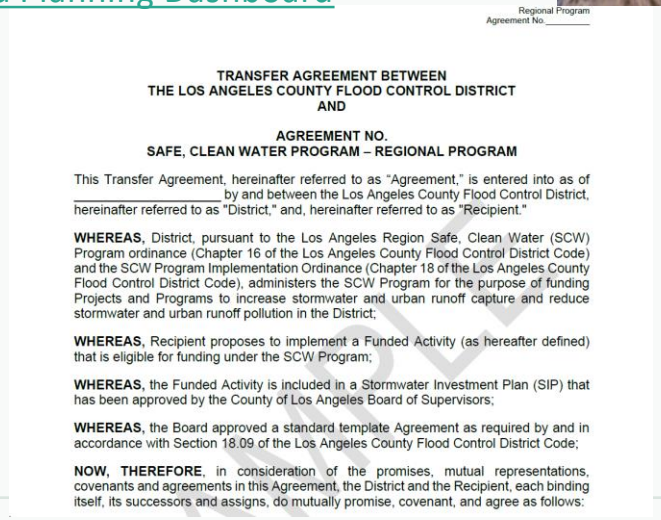
Resources

- Feasibility Study Guidelines
- Supplement Guidance to Support Feasibility Study Guidelines
- 2025 Interim Guidelines
- Spatial Data Library
- Regional Program Transfer Agreement Template
- Regional Program Funding Process Handbook
- Previously Recommended SIPs
- Watershed Planning Dashboard









Regional Program Agreement No._____

TRANSFER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT AND

AGREEMENT NO. SAFE, CLEAN WATER PROGRAM – REGIONAL PROGRAM

This Transfer Agreement, hereinafter referred to as "Agreement," is entered into as of _____ by and between the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, hereinafter referred to as "District," and, hereinafter referred to as "Recipient."

WHEREAS, District, pursuant to the Los Angeles Region Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program ordinance (Chapter 16 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code) and the SCW Program Implementation Ordinance (Chapter 18 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code), administers the SCW Program for the purpose of funding Projects and Programs to increase stormwater and urban runoff capture and reduce stormwater and urban runoff pollution in the District;

WHEREAS, Recipient proposes to implement a Funded Activity (as hereafter defined) that is eligible for funding under the SCW Program;

WHEREAS, the Funded Activity is included in a Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) that has been approved by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors;

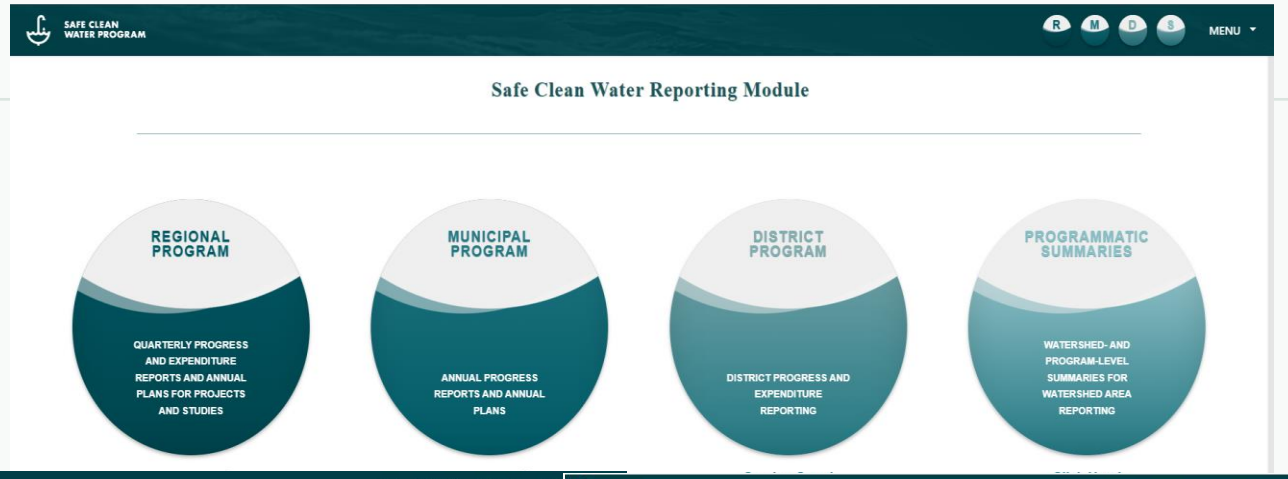
WHEREAS, the Board approved a standard template Agreement as required by and in accordance with Section 18.09 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code;

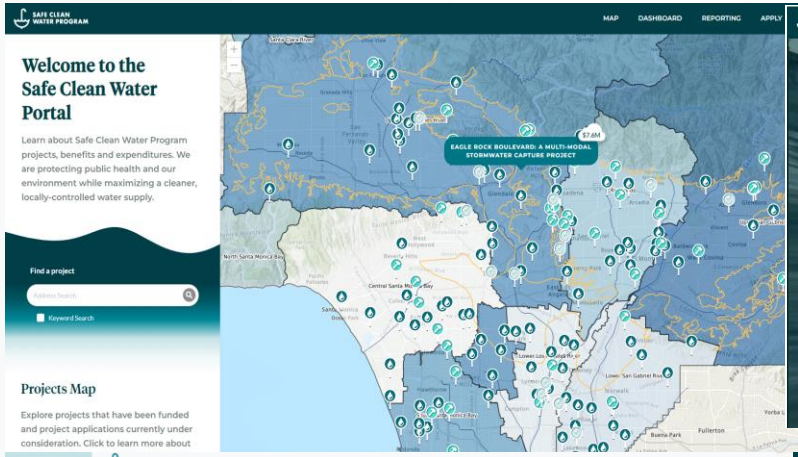
NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises, mutual representations, covenants and agreements in this Agreement, the District and the Recipient, each binding itself, its successors and assigns, do mutually promise, covenant, and agree as follows:

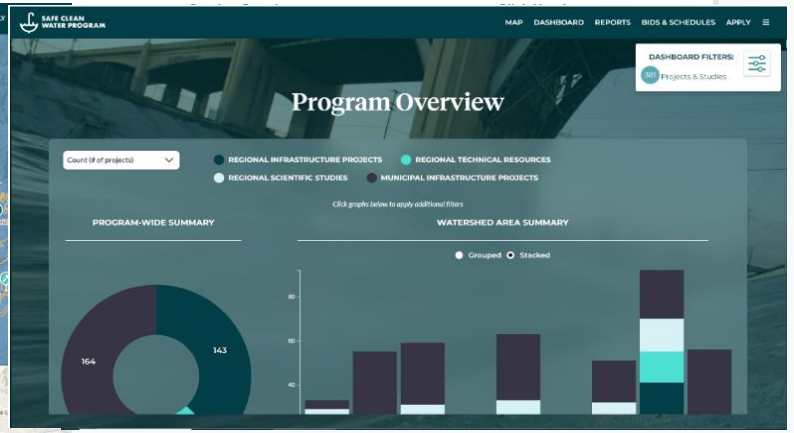
Resources

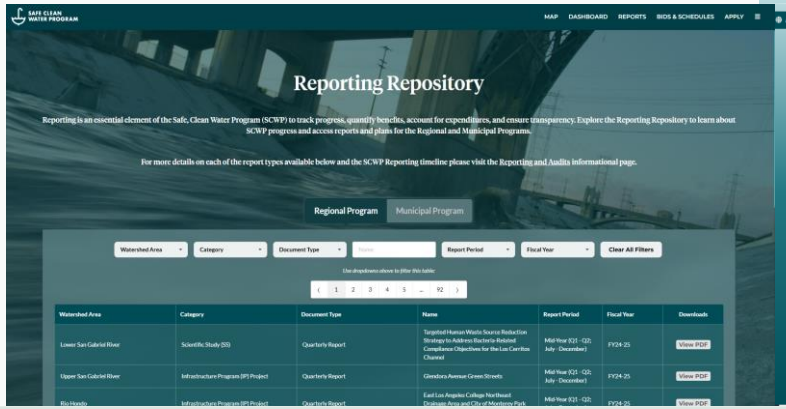
SCW PORTAL:

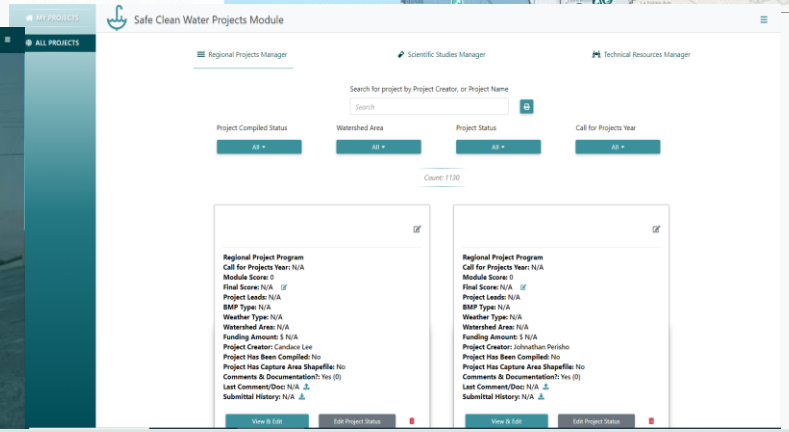
- Project Map
- Dashboard
- Reporting Module
- Reporting Repository
- Apply for Funding
- SIP Tool

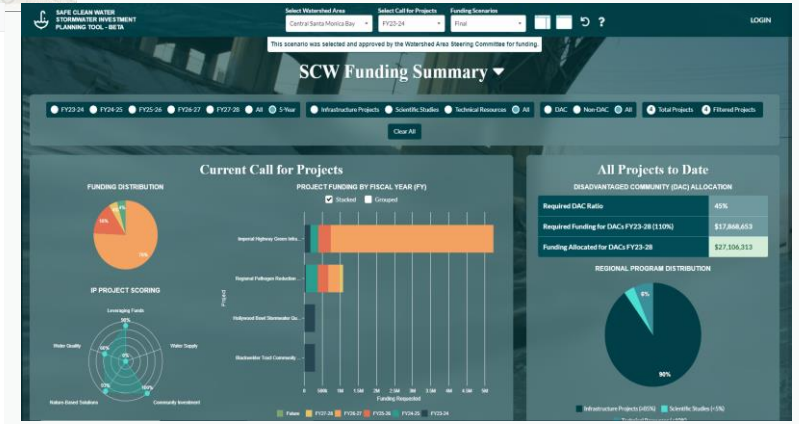




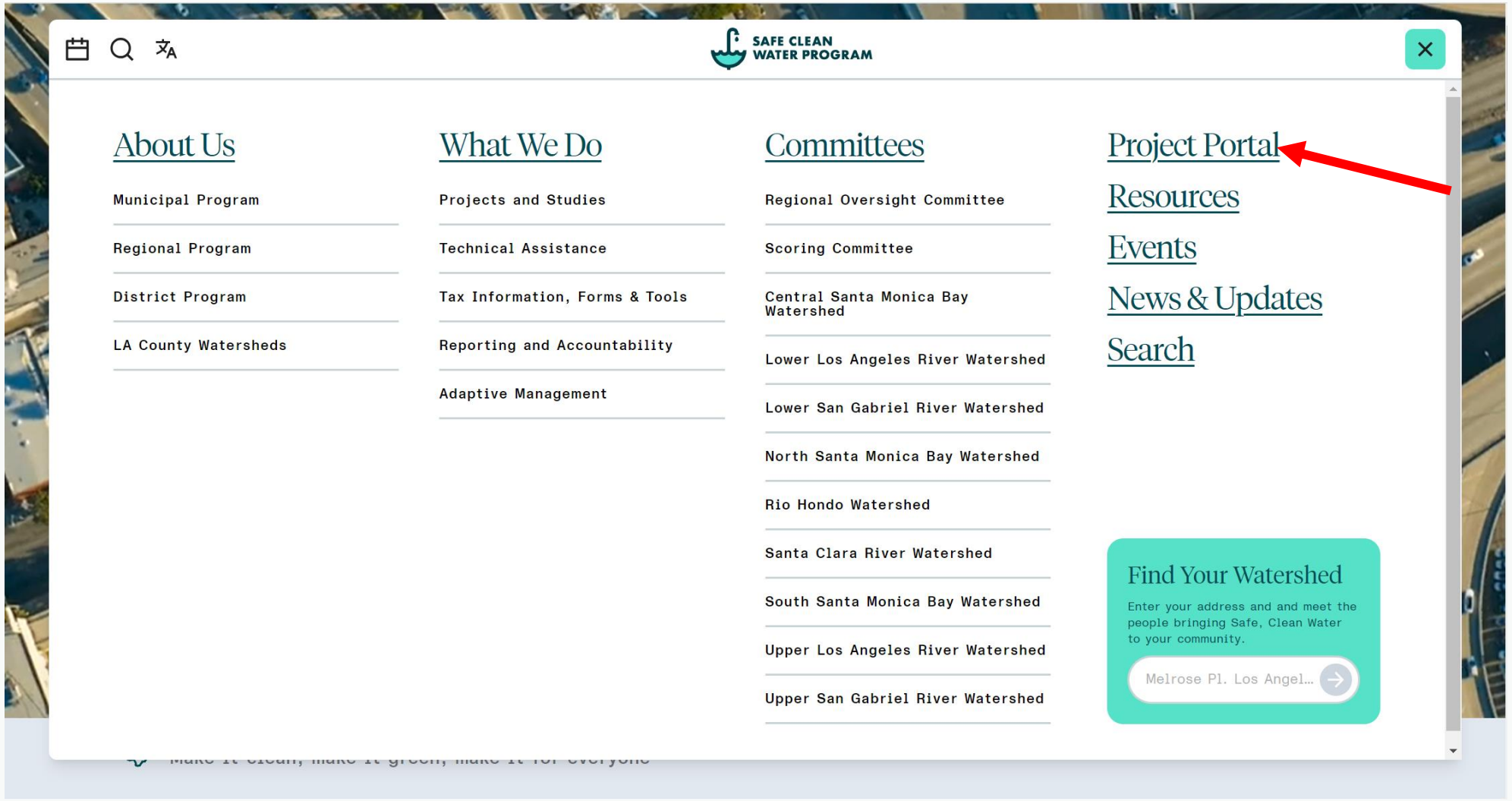






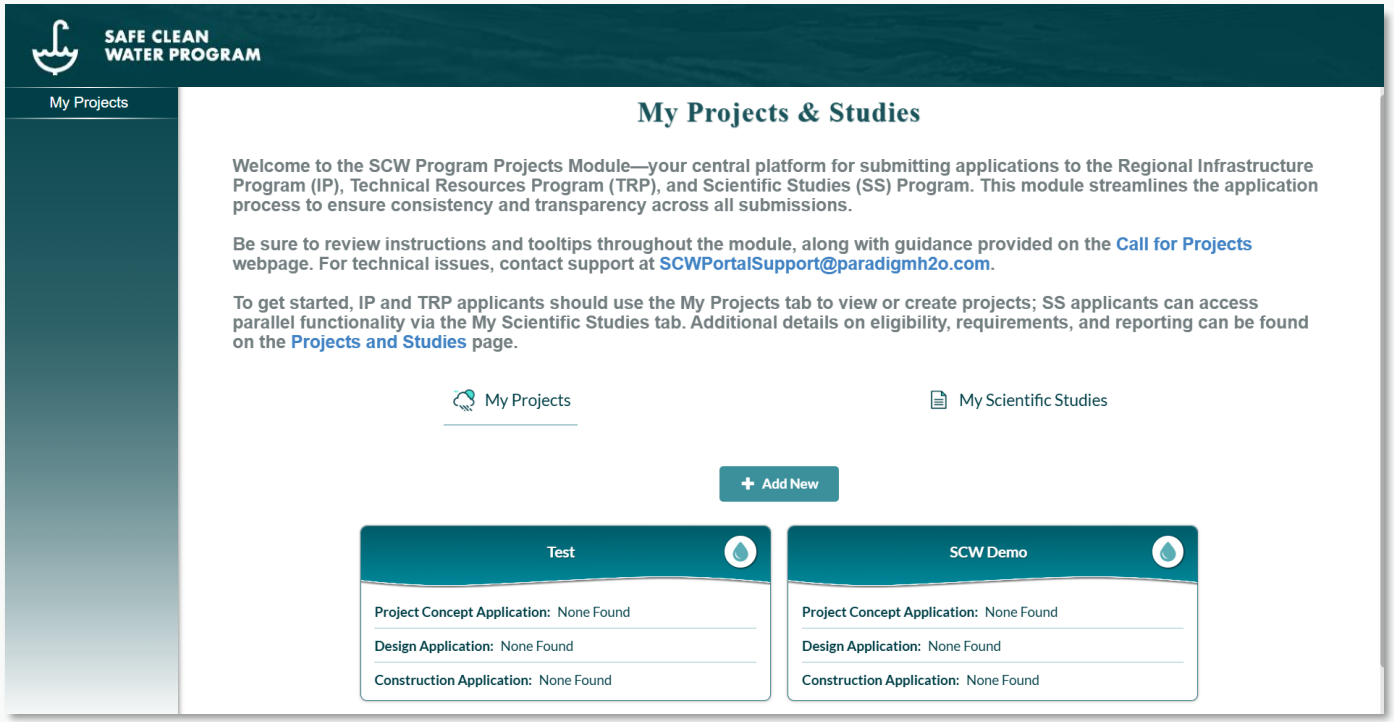


Projects Module Live Tutorial



Projects Module Overview

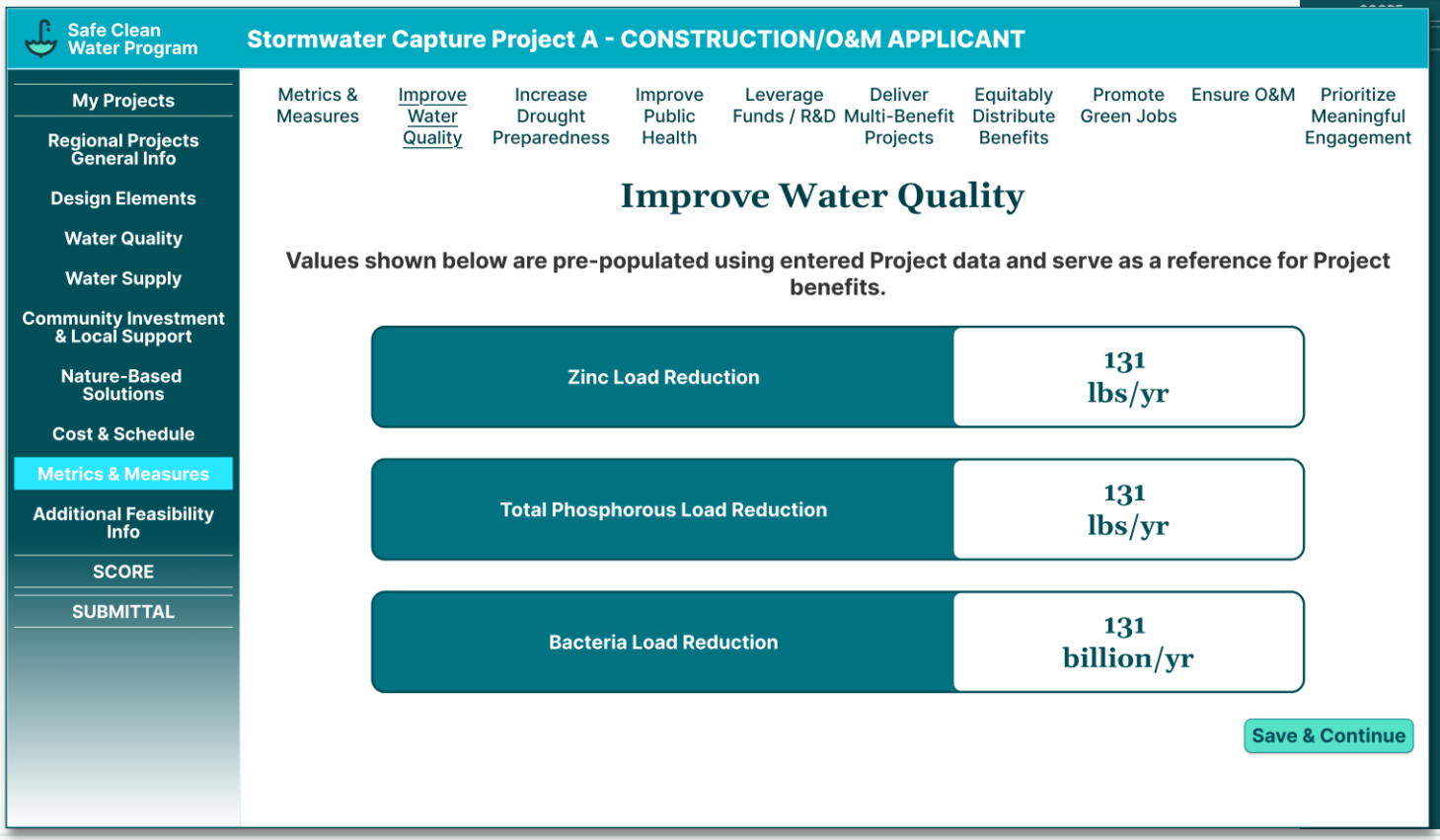
- Streamlined applications with enhanced functionality and features
- Project/Study-oriented architecture
- Use **My Projects** tab to view your projects and to view/create a (1) TRP, (2) IP – Design-only, or (3) IP – Design, Construction, and/or O&M application
- Use **My Scientific Studies** tab to view your Studies and to view/create a SS Program application

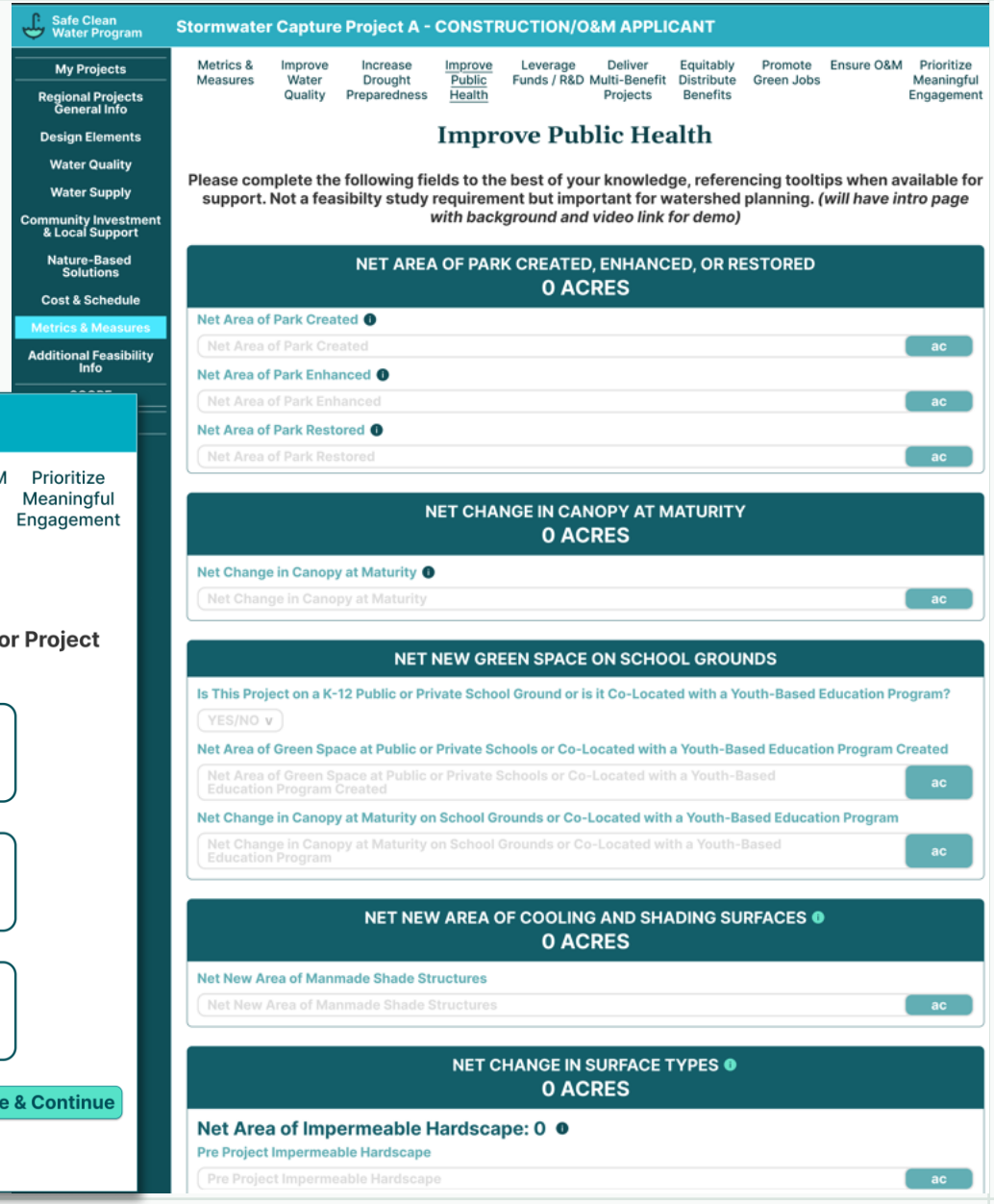


Submit applications by July 31st, 2025

Projects Module – Metrics & Measures

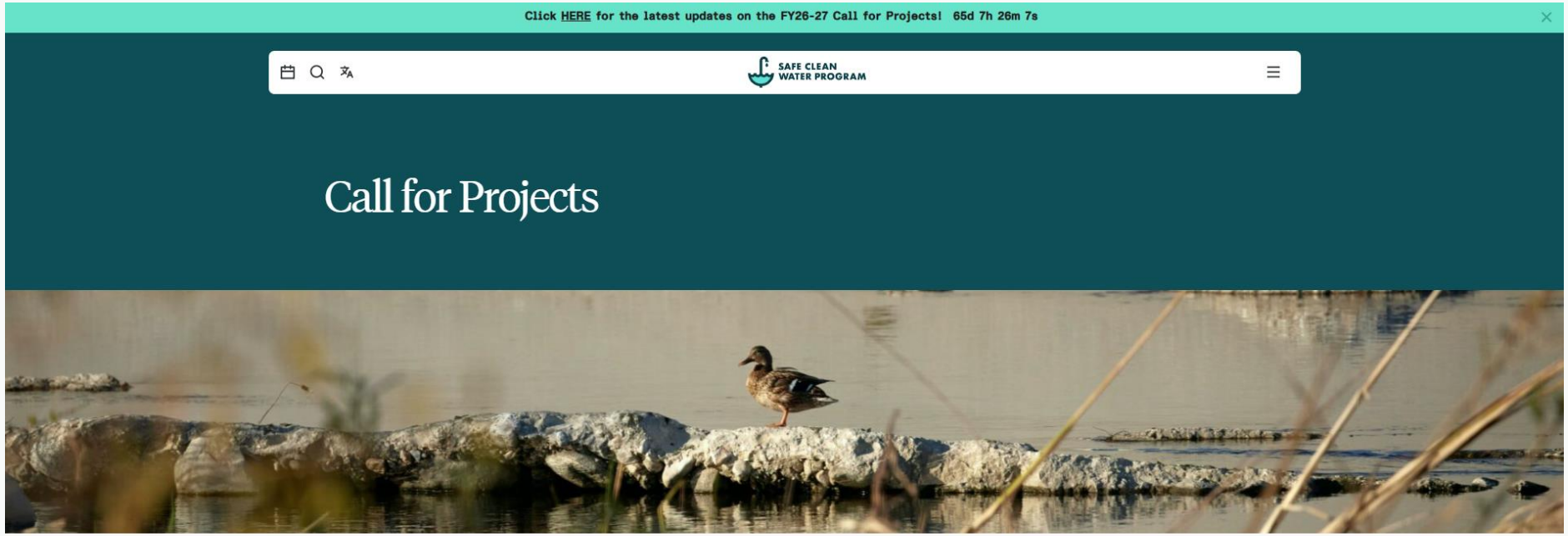
- Infrastructure Program Project applicants only





Call for Projects Webpage

Click the banner on top of the Safe, Clean Water Program Website for updates



Thank you

QUESTIONS?

Contact

www.SafeCleanWaterLA.org

SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov

833-ASK-SCWP