



Public Comment Form

Name*: Franci Levine-Grater Organization*: Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative

Email*: franci@lani.org Phone*: 213-627-1822

Meeting: ULAR Watershed Area Streering Committee Date: 7/2/2025

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

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Comments

Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI) supports the Council for Watershed Health (CWH) to continue providing Watershed Coordinating Services for the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area. Our experience with CWH is that they are expert in the field of sustainable water management, and creative in implementing solutions to water challenges. They understand the complexities and challenges of working in an urban watershed and are adept at addressing them and moving projects forward. The current Watershed Coordinators, Alonso Garcia and Kristina Kreter, are a delight to work with. LANI strongly supports the renewal of CWH as Watershed Coordinator for the ULAR Watershed.

From: Azeneth Martinez <azeneth@lanatureforall.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 3:20 PM
To: DPW-SafeCleanWaterLA
Subject: Public Comment: ULAR 7/2/2025

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Members of the ULAR WASC,

On behalf of Nature for All I'd like to share my strong support for the Council for Watershed Health to continue in their role as Watershed Coordinators for the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed.

Kristina Kreter and Alonso Garcia, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your invaluable work as CWH's WCs. You have been instrumental in integrating community members into advancing the goals of the Safe, Clean Water Program and ensuring our community members are well-informed about stormwater projects and engagement opportunities in their neighborhoods.

Your efforts in making meetings and tours accessible have been particularly impactful. The provision of live translation, printed materials, and consistent follow-up communications has greatly benefited our participants. Their proactive engagement, responsiveness, and ability to navigate complex processes have helped build trust and enabled community-based organizations and municipalities alike to effectively participate in the SCWP.

We strongly support the continued role of CWH as the ULAR Watershed Coordinators. Their proven experience, strong relationships, and deep knowledge of this watershed make them the ideal team to lead these efforts for the next five years.

Thank you.

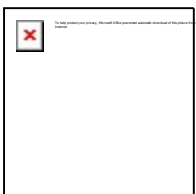
Azeneth Martinez ([She, Her, Ella](#))

Project Manager

azeneth@lanatureforall.org

661-346-6302

@lanatureforall: [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)
[NatureforAll](#)





Public Comment Form

Name*: Carlos Moran

Organization*: North East Trees

Email*: carlos@northeasttrees.org

Phone*: 818-983-9386

Meeting: ULAR WASC Meeting Jul 02

Date: 6/27/2025

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Comments

Recommendation for the Council for Watershed Health's Watershed Coordinators.

North East Trees enthusiastically supports the continued engagement of the Council for Watershed Health (CWH) as a Watershed Coordinator under the Safe, Clean Water Program. CWH has consistently demonstrated deep expertise in community engagement, with a proven ability to collaborate across sectors—including community-based organizations, nonprofits, municipalities, public agencies, and elected officials.

Having been a watershed coordinator for ULAR I can attest to the hard work and commitment of this team. Kristina and Alonso's approach fosters inclusive participation and authentic relationships. They have earned a high level of trust across a wide spectrum of stakeholders. Their leadership was clearly demonstrated most recently when we co-hosted a highly successful tour of Oros Street, the first green street project in Los Angeles. The event, highlighting the collaborative work of North East Trees, LA Sanitation, LADWP, and MRCA, became the highest attended tour to date—a testament to the coordinators' credibility and commitment to advancing the goals of the Safe, Clean Water Program. CWH's ability to champion and support multi-benefit projects makes them an invaluable partner in shaping a more resilient and inclusive watershed future.

Carlos Moran
North East Trees
Executive Director



Public Comment Form

Name*: Jean Park Organization*: API Forward Movement

Email*: jean@apifm.org Phone*: (213) 300-9278

Meeting: _____ Date: _____

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Comments

Dear Members of the ULAR WASC,

On behalf of API Forward Movement, I'd like to share my strong support for the Council for Watershed Health (CWH) to continue in their role as Watershed Coordinators for the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed under the Safe, Clean Water Program.

Over the past four years, the Watershed Coordinators at the CWH have done an outstanding job engaging communities, fostering collaboration, and providing technical support to help advance the goals of the SCWP. Their strong commitment to community-centered projects and benefits has positioned them as a key collaborator across multiple sectors.

CWH's WCs—Kristina Kreter and Alonso Garcia—have been instrumental in shaping APIFM's understanding of community-led water projects, by hosting engaging project tours and educational workshops. These learning opportunities are more than just informative - they allow for transformative collaboration that uplifts intersectional EJ issues and community expertise/trust. They have also actively connected organizations like ours to local water capture projects, leading us to develop closer relationships to local governments in the communities we serve.

My team and I at APIFM strongly support the continued role of CWH as the ULAR Watershed Coordinators!
Sincerely, Jean



Public Comment Form

Name*: Je-Show Yang Organization*: Asian Pacific Islander Forward Movement

Email*: jeshow@apifm.org Phone*: 626 692 5930

Meeting: Upper Los Angeles River WASC Meeting Date: 6/23/2025

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Comments

I am writing in strong support of the Council for Watershed Health (CWH) continuing as the Watershed Coordinator for the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed under the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP).

Over the past five years, CWH has played an instrumental role in supporting our efforts to advance community-driven, multi-benefit stormwater project. Their team has provided essential guidance, helped build local capacity, and fostered strong partnerships between community-based organizations, public agencies, and school districts. One example is their support in planning a green schoolyard project at Fremont Elementary School, where they helped align community engagement, technical planning, and agency collaboration.

CWH's approach has always been rooted in community engagement which lends itself into successful projects. They've consistently ensured that communities most impacted by pollution and climate change have meaningful opportunities to participate in planning and decision-making. Their institutional knowledge, technical expertise, and long-standing relationships throughout the watershed make them uniquely positioned to continue this work.

I strongly urge the continuation of their role for the next five-year term so they can build on the progress already made and continue strengthening the impact of the SCWP in our region.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Kelsey Jessup Organization*: The Nature Conservancy

Email*: kelsey.jessup@tnc.org Phone*: 650-248-8878

Meeting: Upper Los Angeles River WASC Meeting Date: 6/27/2025

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Comments

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) strongly supports Council for Watershed Health's application and their continued work in advancing the goals of the Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP). For more than 28 years, CWH has advanced the understanding of stormwater as a valuable asset and has contributed its expertise to the design and implementation of nature-based, multi-benefit stormwater projects across the Los Angeles region.

For the past four years, CWH has successfully provided watershed coordination services in the Upper Los Angeles River (ULAR) watershed, leveraging community strengths and facilitating stormwater education, engaging communities, elected officials, CBOs, nonprofits, and tribes and tribal organizations, providing technical assistance and supporting community-led projects and school greening initiatives through the SCWP. TNC has had the privilege of working closely with CWH, specifically Kristina Kreter and Alonso Garcia, and is confident that they will continue to work with community-based organizations, agencies, and other interested parties to foster meaningful partnerships with the SCWP, promoting shared environmental, equitable, and economic prosperity.

If LA County is going to achieve its water management goals and ensure community engagement and collaboration, it is critical to have an entity, such as CWH, lead engagement and outreach to diverse project proponents across the County and to steward projects through the program.

RE: Support for Council for Watershed Health Watershed Coordinator Services for the Safe Clean Water Program

Dear Members of the ULAR WASC,

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) strongly supports Council for Watershed Health's application and their continued work in advancing the goals of the Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP).

TNC is an international non-profit organization dedicated to conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends. Our work on the ground is carried out in all 50 states and 79 countries and territories around the world and is supported by more than one million members. To date, we have helped conserve approximately 120 million acres (including nearly 1.5 million acres in California) and 5,000 river miles around the world. We have been engaged in the protection and management of natural resources across the U.S. since 1951. Our Los Angeles work has focused on increasing the pace and scale of nature-based climate solutions, addressing urban challenges utilizing nature, and enhancing biodiversity across the landscape.

For more than 28 years, CWH has advanced the understanding of stormwater as a valuable asset and has contributed its expertise to the design and implementation of nature-based, multi-benefit stormwater projects across the Los Angeles region. CWH has a proven track record of community education and engagement, as well as interagency collaboration, resulting in stormwater management projects that reduce pollution, increase local water supply, and enhance biodiversity while improving resilience to climate change. CWH has provided technical assistance to municipalities, school districts, and community-based organizations serving underserved communities, helping them develop and secure funding for Low Impact Development (LID) and green stormwater infrastructure projects.

For the past four years, CWH has successfully provided watershed coordination services in the Upper Los Angeles River (ULAR) watershed, leveraging community strengths and facilitating stormwater education, engaging communities, elected officials, CBOs, nonprofits, and tribes and tribal organizations, providing technical assistance and supporting community-led projects and school greening initiatives through the SCWP. TNC has had the privilege of working closely with CWH and is confident that they will continue to work with community-based organizations, agencies, and other interested parties to foster meaningful partnerships with the Safe Clean Water Program, promoting shared environmental, equitable, and economic prosperity.

TNC applied for funding from the Safe, Clean Water Program to support our project at the Bowtie Parcel along the Los Angeles River. CWH's Watershed Coordinators, Kristina Kreter

and Alonso Garcia, have been fantastic partners. They provided invaluable support to our team, helping us to understand the process, expectations, and how to best meet SCWP goals. The Safe, Clean Water Program is an important program that has potential to make huge change in the region. It is designed to ensure participation from diverse stakeholders but the processes to participate can be lengthy and complex. If LA County is going to achieve its water management goals and ensure community engagement and collaboration, it is critical to have an entity, such as CWH, lead engagement and outreach to diverse project proponents across the County and to steward projects through the program.

It is for these reasons that TNC strongly supports Council for Watershed Health and the continuation of their watershed coordination services in the ULAR watershed. We look forward to continuing to collaborate and witnessing the positive impacts their work will continue to have on our region.

Sincerely,

Kelsey Jessup

Climate and Nature-Based Solutions Project Director, California

The Nature Conservancy



Public Comment Form

Name*: Latoya Waters

Organization*: City of Alhambra

Email*: lwaters@alhambraca.gov

Phone*: 626-570-5036

Meeting: SCWP ULAR Watershed Coordinator Interviews

Date: 7/1/2025

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Comments

Dear Members of the ULAR WASC,

On behalf of the City of Alhambra, I would like to share the City's strong support for the Council for Watershed Health (CWH) to continue in their role as Watershed Coordinators (WC) for the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed under the Safe, Clean Water Program.

Over the past four (4) years, the Watershed Coordinators at the Council for Watershed Health have done an outstanding job engaging communities, fostering collaboration, and providing technical support to help advance the goals of the Safe, Clean Water Program. Their strong commitment to community-centered projects and benefits has positioned them as a key collaborator across multiple sectors.

CWH WCs—Kristina Kreter and Alonso Garcia—have been instrumental in facilitating successful community partnerships through educational outreach and engagement, as well as tabling at City events and workshops. While they continually promote the SCWP Program and City Projects, they have also been instrumental in exploring other opportunities for projects, funding, and partnerships. Their proactive engagement, responsiveness, and ability to navigate complex processes have helped build trust and enabled community-based organizations and municipalities alike to effectively participate in the SCWP.

We strongly support the continued role of CWH as the ULAR Watershed Coordinators. Their proven experience, strong relationships, and deep knowledge of this watershed make them the ideal team to lead these efforts for the next five (5) years.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Maggie Gardner Organization*: Los Angeles Waterkeeper

Email*: maggie@lawaterkeeper.org Phone*: (310) 651-3360

Meeting: ULAR WASC Date: 7/2/2025

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Comments

Los Angeles Waterkeeper is in support of both Council for Watershed Health and Environmental Outreach Strategies being renewed as watershed coordinators for the Upper Los Angeles River watershed. We have been impressed by the work that these organizations conduct on behalf of the WASC and have enjoyed working with them when the opportunity arises and our work intersects with the Upper Los Angeles River watershed. One of the greatest benefits of reappointing these organizations is the continuity that it will bring as they bring a wealth of experience conducting this work.

In summary, Los Angeles Waterkeeper supports the reappointment of Council for Watershed Health and Environmental Outreach Strategies as watershed coordinators for the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Elva Yanez

Organization*: Save Elephant Hill

Email*: ekyanez2017@gmail.com

Phone*: 323-397-1554

Meeting: SCWP Watershed Area Steering Committee ULAF

Date: 7/1/2025

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Comments

I would like to make a public comment on Item 8 - Selection of Watershed Coordinators.



Public Comment Form

Name*:	<u>Tim Brick</u>	Organization*:	<u>Stewards of the Arroyo</u>
Email*:	<u>tim@arroyoseco.org</u>	Phone*:	<u>(619) 492-2884</u>
Meeting:	<u>UCLA R WASC</u>	Date:	<u>7/2/25</u>

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Comments



Public Comment Form

Name*: Barbara Eisenstein Organization*: Friends of Soles Nature Park
Email*: barbara.eisenstein@gmail.com Phone*: 626 590 5070
Meeting*: _____ Date: 7/2/25

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Comments

Invite committee to South Pasadena Arroyo Seco Woodland & Wildlife Park. Example of nature-based restoration in ~~op~~ operation since Oct. 2004. Volunteer involvement for 19 years. The Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project is not a nature-based project.