

# Santa Clara River Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Meeting Minutes

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Thursday, August 21, 2025  
1:00pm - 3:00pm  
Santa Clarita City Hall  
23920 Valencia Blvd. Valencia, CA 91355  
WebEx Meeting

## Committee Members Present:

\*Alynn Sun, Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Agency)  
Ali Elhassan, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (Agency)  
Francisco Guerrero, LA County Sanitation Districts (Agency)  
Jerrid McKenna, City of Santa Clarita Recreation & Community Services (Agency)  
Sandra Cattell, Sierra Club (Community), Vice-Chair  
Dianne Erskine-Hellrigel, St. Francis Dam Disaster National Memorial Foundation (Community)  
Bruce Hamamoto, Los Angeles County (Municipal)  
\*Tyler Pledger, Santa Clarita (Municipal)  
Oliver Cramer, Santa Clarita (Municipal)  
Damon Letz, Santa Clarita (Municipal), Chair  
Darin Seegmiller, Santa Clarita (Municipal)  
Amanda Begley, TreePeople (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

\*Committee Member Alternate

## Committee Members Not Present:

Steve Cole, Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Agency)  
Hunt Braly, Poole & Shaffery (Community)  
Mary Johnson, Agua Dulce Town Council (Community)  
Ivan Volschenk, Evolve Business Strategies (Community)

See attached sign-in sheet for full list of attendees.

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## **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Darin Seegmiller of the Santa Clara River (SCR) Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC), welcomed Committee Members and called the meeting to order. Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works) staff gave a brief WebEx tutorial. Public Works staff facilitated the roll call of Committee Members and a quorum was established.

## **2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 23, 2025**

Public Works staff presented the previous meeting minutes. Member Jerrid McKenna motioned to approve the meeting minutes from June 23, 2025. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Sandra Cattell. The Committee voted to approve the June 23, 2025 meeting minutes, with 12 votes in favor, 1 vote in abstention, and 0 votes opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

## **3. Ex Parte Communication Disclosures**

There were no ex parte communications disclosures.

## **6. Discussion Items**

The Committee moved this Agenda Item before Agenda Item 4.

### **a) Regional Program FY24-25 Mid-Year Report Summary (HDR)**

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Melanie Rivera (HDR) provided a presentation on SCW Program Mid-Year reporting for FY 2024-25 and described past and upcoming deadlines and the role of the WASC throughout the reporting process. Presentation slides are available on the [SCR WASC event page](#) on the SCW Program website.

Vice-Chair Cattell inquired about the Via Princesa Park and Regional BMP Project delay, asking Chair Seegmiller and Public Works staff to expand on the potential fluctuating groundwater levels at Via Princesa Park. The Project team from the City of Santa Clarita provided an update on the environmental permitting and noted that the team is waiting on right-of-way reviews. City of Santa Clarita Public Works will follow up with Vice-Chair Cattell with more information about the groundwater levels proximate to the project site. Chair Seegmiller shared a brief history on the groundwater levels in and around Via Princesa Park and noted that the project is designed so that if the water cannot infiltrate, flows will bypass the system and drain into the Santa Clara River.

#### **i. Public Comment Period**

There were no public comments.

#### **4. Committee Member and District Updates**

Public Works provided an update, noting:

- The Fiscal Year 2026 – 2027 (FY26-27) [Call for Projects](#) deadline was July 31, 2025 for Infrastructure Program (IP) Projects, Technical Resources Program (TRP) Project concepts, and Scientific Study (SS) applicants. The Call for Projects webpage, located in the top banner of the Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program website, contains all the information related to the application.
- New [Supplemental Guidance to Support Feasibility Study Guidelines](#) is available to clarify the 19 requirements for a Project applying for design funds only versus a Project applying for a combination of design, construction, and/or operations and maintenance (O&M) funds.
- The Regional Program Annual Report (covering July 2024 - June 2025) was due on August 15, 2025 for Project Developers and Scientific Studies approved in FY2020 through FY25 Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs). Reports must be submitted regardless of whether funding was received, expenditures or activities occurred, or a Funds Transfer Agreement was executed. Project and Study Developers have received this announcement via email. The Annual Report Module is live and ready for submittal.
- The Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) meeting was occurred on August 13, 2025 where the ROC received an update on regional project development and partnerships, a preview of Initial Watershed Plans, and discussed SCW Program Educations Programs.
- Municipalities were asked to input Metrics & Measures in the Reporting Module by June 16, 2025. This will collect data for performance metrics specific to Municipal Program Project activities to align with and inform Watershed Planning efforts and Program-wide progress assessments. There was a virtual workshop on this topic. To access the workshop's presentation slides, recording, and Q&A document, please visit [SCW Program website](#).
- Public Education and Community Engagement Grants Program applications are no longer being accepted. The list of approved proposals for Round 1, Round 2, and Round 3 are available on the [Water Foundation website](#).
- The Quarter 1 2026 Funding Report has been posted to the [SCW Program website](#) under the Resources tab. In support of Public Works, the Regional Coordination team prepares quarterly funding reports that include a high-level overview of recent funding policy highlights and a funding matrix that shares currently active and upcoming funding opportunities that may be relevant to SCW Program projects. Los Angeles County Public Works staff and the Regional Coordination team are actively tracking activity to better understand impacts to future funding.
- The Safe Clean Water Program's Landcover Survey was updated for FY25-26. This Landcover Survey provides the aerial imagery used to calculate parcels' Safe Clean Water Tax. Although the

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tax rate (2.5 cents per square foot of impermeable area) has not changed, a parcel's impermeable area may have changed. Formal announcements will come out in September or October in preparation for the FY25-26 Los Angeles County Annual Property Tax Bills.

- The Initial Watershed Plans are open for a 45-day Public Review Period starting on August 14, 2025 and located on the Watershed Planning page of the [SCW Program website](#).
- Implementation Updates are available on the [News and Updates webpage](#) on the SCW Website.

#### 5. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

#### 6. Discussion Items

##### b) Summary of Submitted Infrastructure Program Projects, Scientific Studies, and Technical Resources Program Project Concepts (Watershed Coordinator)

Watershed Coordinator Amanda Begley shared a summary of all the projects submitted to the SCR WASC for FY 2026-27. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

The Projects, Programs, and Studies submitted to the SCR WASC include:

- A Holistic Assessment of Trash in Watersheds led by the Moore Institute for Plastic Pollution Research (Scientific Study, \$366,000)
- Benefits of Restoration and Land Preservation as Nature-based Solutions to Water Quality and Water Supply lead by the Council for Watershed Health (Scientific Study, \$593,000)
- Building a Green Infrastructure Workforce in the LA Region lead by the City of Pasadena, Department of Public Works (Scientific Study, \$17,000)
- Jake Kuredjian Park and Pico Canyon Diversion Stormwater Improvement Project lead by Los Angeles County (Infrastructure Program-Design, \$1,250,000)

Vice-Chair Cattell appreciated seeing the project list, expressing interest in the Jake Kuredjian Park and Pico Canyon Diversion Stormwater Improvement Project.

##### i. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

##### c) Discussion to send none, some, or all completed feasibility studies to the Scoring Committee for consideration

Chair Seegmiller explained that the SS projects will automatically go to Public Works staff to send to an independent third party reviewer, and that the WASC votes on whether to send IP projects to the Scoring Committee.

Chair Seegmiller reflected on the site visit held a few years ago to discuss combining the Jake Kuredjian Park and Pico Canyon Diversion Stormwater Improvement projects, noting that the combined project has now returned to the WASC.

The WASC agreed to move the Jake Kuredjian Park and Pico Canyon Diversion Stormwater Improvement Project forward, given its direct response to the WASC's input. Member Ali Elhassan confirmed with Member Bruce Hamamoto that there will be educational signage along the infrastructure and within the park. Vice-Chair Cattell commented that any member of the public can use a public park, even if the park is not physically located in a Disadvantaged Community Census Block Group. The Committee commented on the multiple benefits that park projects bring to a wide array of communities.

##### i. Public Comment Period

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There were no public comments.

## **d) Review of Committee Roles and Responsibilities**

Ryanna Fossum (Stantec, Regional Coordination) presented a review on the roles and responsibilities of the WASC. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Upon inquiry, Public Works explained that all Project Developers are required to put unused funds in an interest accruing account, which can be used toward the project. Public Works staff shared that any funds which have not been dispersed to Project Developers are also placed in an interest-bearing account and any interest accrued is added to the District Program for administration of the SCW Program. Some of this work includes the recent Watershed Planning effort and the Community Engagement and Education Grants Program.

### **i. Public Comment Period**

There were no public comments.

## **e) Selection of Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-Chairs**

Chair Seegmiller and Vice-Chair Cattell expressed interest in continuing their respective roles. The WASC concurred with those sentiments.

### **i. Public Comment Period**

There were no public comments.

## **7. Voting Items**

### **a) Vote to send none, some, or all completed feasibility studies to the Scoring Committee for consideration**

Member McKenna motioned to send all completed feasibility studies to the Scoring Committee for consideration, seconded by Member Dianne Erskine-Hellrigel. The motion passed with 13 votes in favor, 0 votes in abstention, and 0 votes opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

### **b) Selection of Chair, Vice Chair, or Co-Chairs for the Santa Clara River Watershed Area**

Member Erskine-Hellrigel motioned to select Darin Seegmiller as Chair and Sandra Cattell as Vice-Chair of the SCR WASC. The motion was seconded by Member Damon Letz. The motion passed with 13 votes in favor, 0 votes in abstention, and 0 votes opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

## **8. Items for Next Agenda**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 18 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm. Items on the next agenda include:

### **a) Update for Discussion on Invasive Species in the Santa Clara River Watershed Area**

Chair Seegmiller solicited the WASC for topics to schedule in future meetings. Member Hamamoto requested to hear from the Identifying Best Practices for Maintaining Stormwater Drywell Capacity SS Project Proponents.

Vice-Chair Cattell inquired about permeable asphalt options and requested a presentation from Watershed Coordinator Begley about its advantages in new developments, noting that the Valencia Library uses permeable asphalt in its parking lot.

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Member Erskine-Hellrigel asked the WASC and Public Works staff to consider collaborating on more events, particularly regarding outdoor trash and environmental clean-ups. Vice-Chair Cattell offered to coordinate any collaboration with the Sierra Club. Chair Seegmiller added that the Environmental Services Division of the City of Santa Clarita is doing smaller targeted cleanups with its volunteer groups.

#### **9. Adjournment**

Chair Seegmiller thanked the WASC and members of the public and adjourned the meeting.

# SANTA CLARA RIVER WASC MEETING - AUGUST 21, 2025



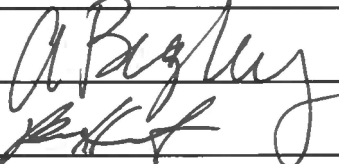




SANTA CLARA RIVER WASC MEETING - AUGUST 21, 2025								
		Quorum Present				Voting Items (see meeting minutes for additional details)		
Member Type	Position	Member	Voting/ Present ?	Alternate	Voting/ Present?	Approve June 23, 2025 Meeting Minutes	Send all completed feasibility studies to the Scoring Committee for consideration	Select Darin Seegmiller as Chair and Sandra Cattell as Vice-Chair for the SCR WASC
Agency	District	Julian Juarez		Alynn Sun	x	y	y	y
Agency	Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency	Ali Elhassan	y	Najwa Pitois		y	y	y
Agency	Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Steve Cole		Rick Viergutz		y		
Agency	LA County Sanitation Districts	Francisco Guerrero	x	Christopher Lapaz		y	y	y
Agency	Santa Clarita Recreation & Community Services	Jerrid McKenna	x	Susan Nelson		y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Poole & Shaffery	Hunt Braly						
Community Stakeholder	Agua Dulce Town Council	Mary Johnson						
Community Stakeholder	Santa Clarita Sierra Club	Sandra Cattell**	x	Diane Trautman		y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Evolve Business Strategies	Ivan Volschenk						
Community Stakeholder	St. Francis Dam Disaster National Memorial Foundation	Dianne Erskine-Hellrigel	x	Heidi Webber		y	y	y
Municipal Members	LA County Public Works	Bruce Hamamoto	x	Paul Choy		y	y	y
Municipal Members	LA County Public Works	Bruce Hamamoto	x	Paul Choy		y	y	y
Municipal Members	LA County Public Works	Bruce Hamamoto	x	Paul Choy		y	y	y
Municipal Members	Santa Clarita	Laurene Weste, Councilmember		Tyler Pledger	x	a	y	y
Municipal Members	Santa Clarita	Oliver Cramer	x	Haley Lawton		y	y	y
Municipal Members	Santa Clarita	Damon Letz	x	Dan Duncan		y	y	y
Municipal Members	Santa Clarita	Darin Seegmiller*	x	Lindsay Schmandt		y	y	y
Watershed Coordinator								
Non-Voting Member	TreePeople, Inc.	Amanda Begley	x	Heather Turpin				
Total Non-Vacant Seats		17			Yes (Y)	13	13	13
Total Voting Members Present		12			No (N)	0	0	0
Agency		3			Abstain (A)	1	0	0
Community Stakeholder		2			Total	14	13	13
Municipal Members		7				Approved	Approved	Approved

**Webex Attendees**  
**Santa Clara River WASC Meeting**  
**August 21, 2025**

Claire Barr	Dusadee Corhiran	Linet Khechatoorian	SCWP Staff - Anthony Barreras
Craig Doberstein	G Kast	Melanie Rivera	SCWP Staff - Larry Tran
Daria Antonova - LACPW	Jacqueline Stone LACPW	Nathaly Moreno she/her	SCWP Staff - Wayne Lee
Diego C - LA County	Jason Jade Pepito	PCHOY	Wayne Lee - SCPW
Dr. Mehrad Kamalzare CPP	Julian Juarez	Ryanna Fossum	cherise thompson

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COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Email Address		Signature
Ali Elhassan	Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency		P	
Allen Ma	LA County Public Works		A	
Alynn Sun	FCD		A	
Amanda Begley (non-voting)	TreePeople		N/A	
Bruce Hamamoto	LA County Public Works		P	
Christopher Lapaz	LA County Sanitation Districts		A	
Councilmember Laurene Weste	Santa Clarita		P	
Damon Letz	Santa Clarita		P	
Dan Duncan	Santa Clarita		A	
Darin Seegmiller	Santa Clarita		P	
Diane Trautman	Santa Clarita Sierra Club		A	
Dianne Erskine-Hellrigel	St. Francis Dam Disaster National Memorial Foundation		P	
Francisco Guerrero	LA County Sanitation Districts		P	
Haley Lawton	Santa Clarita		A	
Heather Turpin	TreePeople		N/A	



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COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Email Address		Signature
Heidi Webber	St. Francis Dam Disaster National Memorial Foundation		A	
Hunt Braly	Poole & Shaffery		P	
Ivan Volschenk	Evolve Business Strategies		P	
Jerrid McKenna	Santa Clarita Recreation & Community Services		P	<i>Jerrid McKenna</i>
Julian Juarez	FCD		P	
Lindsay Schmandt	Santa Clarita		A	<i>Lindsay Schmandt</i>
Mary Johnson	Agua Dulce Town Council		P	<i>M. Johnson</i>
Najwa Pitois	Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency		A	
Oliver Cramer	Santa Clarita		P	<i>Oliver Cramer</i>
Rick Viergutz	Santa Clarita Valley GSA		A	
Sandra Cattell	Santa Clarita Sierra Club		P	<i>Sandra Cattell</i>
Steve Cole	Santa Clarita Valley GSA		P	<i>Steve Cole</i>
Susan Nelson	Santa Clarita Recreation & Community Services		A	
Tyler Pledger	Santa Clarita		A	

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PUBLIC SIGN-IN



First Name	Last Name	Municipality/Organization	Email Address
Vipul	Joshi	Dudek	
Coun or	Rudmann	Dudek	
Shannon	Heffernan	Dudek	