

Rio Hondo

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)

Meeting Minutes



Tuesday, August 19, 2025
1:00pm – 4:00pm
Library Community Room
321 S. Myrtle Ave, Monrovia, CA 91016
WebEx Meeting

Committee Members Present:

*Alynn Sun, Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Agency)
*Lauren Augino, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster (Agency)
Shannon Bishop, Los Angeles County Sanitation District (Agency)
Jeff Khun, City of Pasadena Public Works (Agency)
Brian Tabatabai, Resident (Community)
Jill Fosselman, Resident (Community)
Bryan Matsumoto, Nature for All (Community)
Latoya Waters, Alhambra (Municipal)
Briget Arndell, Arcadia (Municipal)
Stephanie Sandoval, Duarte (Municipal)
Eddie Chan, Irwindale (Municipal)
Alex Tachiki, Monrovia (Municipal)
Dawn Petschauer, Pasadena (Municipal), Chair
Fernando Villaluna, Los Angeles County (Municipal)
Richard Watson, Richard Watson and Associates Planning (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

Committee Members Not Present:

Tom Love, Upper San Gabriel District (Agency), Vice-Chair
Marisol Cortez (Community)

*Committee Member Alternate

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

1) Welcome and Introductions

Dawn Petschauer, Chair of the Rio Hondo (RH) Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC), welcomed Committee Members and called the meeting to order. Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works) staff conducted a brief tutorial on WebEx and facilitated the roll call of Committee Members. Public Works staff made self-introductions, and a quorum was established.

Chair Petschauer also reminded Committee Members of attendance requirements. Per Article V, Section C of the Regional Program Committee Handbook, the absence of more than three meetings in one year will be considered a failure to attend meetings. This will make the member eligible for removal.

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 15, 2025

Public Works staff presented the minutes from the previous meeting. Member Briget Arndell motioned to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Member Brian Tabatabai. The WASC voted to approve the July 15, 2025 meeting minutes with 9 votes in favor, 0 opposed, 3 in abstention, and 2 absent at time of vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

3) Committee Member and Program Updates

Public Works staff deferred updates to the next meeting.

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4) Watershed Coordinator Updates

Watershed Coordinator Julie Millett shared updates on recent and upcoming outreach efforts, including tabling and attending Alhambra Eco-Fair, Waterfest, and the Rio Hondo Ecosystem Restoration Community Bike Ride. Watershed Coordinator Millett also noted attending recent Working Group Meetings, supporting Project applications with Amigos de los Rios, and exploring new project opportunities with Garvey School District and the City of Monterey Park. Watershed Coordinator Millett highlighted the release of [Quarter 1 2026 Funding Report](#) and the notable funding opportunities. Watershed Coordinator Millett noted completing reporting for Watershed Coordinators and reviewing the 13 submitted Regional Program applications for FY26-27 Call for Projects and Initial Watershed Plan.

5) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

There were no ex parte communications.

6) Public Comment Period

Public Works staff compiled all public comments and have uploaded them to the [SCW Program website](#). 18 comment cards were received prior to the meeting. In person, virtual and call-in users were invited to provide public comment.

Chair Petschauer noted that public comments are the opinion of that individual.

Christina Davila (El Monte City School District) expressed support for Active San Gabriel Valley (ActiveSGV) as Watershed Coordinator, noting the organization's successful history of collaboration with multiple entities, particularly in navigating complex funding streams.

Je-show Yang (Asian Pacific Islander Forward Movement (APIFM)) expressed support for ActiveSGV as Watershed Coordinator, noting the organization's contribution to APIFM's growth.

Luis Rodriguez (California Foundation) expressed support for ActiveSGV as Watershed Coordinator, noting the organization's efforts in critical community programs, including wildfire recovery and COVID-19 awareness.

Catherine Baltazar (Climate Resolve) expressed support for ActiveSGV as Watershed Coordinator, noting Merced Avenue Greenway as an example project where ActiveSGV worked directly to advance SCW Program goals.

Alyson Mello (Amigos de los Rios) expressed support for Advanced Media Works as Watershed Coordinator, emphasizing the firm's technical expertise and success with the Plymouth School Neighborhood Stormwater Capture Project.

Tori Kjer (Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust) expressed support for ActiveSGV as Watershed Coordinator, noting the organization's local knowledge and strong network throughout the San Gabriel Valley.

Christy Zamani (Day One) expressed support for ActiveSGV as Watershed Coordinator, noting the organization's deep community roots and ability to speak the local language.

James Powell (Craftwater Engineering) expressed support for ActiveSGV as Watershed Coordinator, noting extensive experience that has built community trust and the organization's ability to ensure projects reflect community priorities.

Diego Zavala (Resident, Former Commissioner for City of South Pasadena Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission) expressed support for ActiveSGV as Watershed Coordinator, noting the organization's ability to strengthen community trust in the SCW Program.

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7) Presentations and Discussion Items

a) Watershed Coordinator Selection (Continued)

During the previous WASC meeting, the WASC raised a potential conflict of interest involving ActiveSGV's consideration for the Watershed Coordinator position. Public Works staff explained that the matter is under County Counsel review, which may take several months. In the meantime, Public Works staff recommended that the Committee proceed with voting for their recommended Primary and Alternate Watershed Coordinators for the Rio Hondo Watershed Area, noting that any findings from the review that could affect contract implementation will be shared with the Committee.

Upon inquiry, Mike Antos (Stantec, Regional Coordination) explained that the potential conflict of interest pertains to the County's contracting process, while Municipalities must independently assess their own conflict of interest considerations. Public Works staff confirmed that no contracts would be finalized while conflict of interest issues are unresolved and under County Counsel review.

The Committee discussed the qualifications and strengths of both applicants. Committee Members highlighted ActiveSGV's community roots, experiences, and history of projects in underserved areas. Other Committee Members emphasized the technical expertise and agency engagement provided by the current Watershed Coordinator, including their presence at community events and support for Project Developers and Municipalities.

Upon inquiry, Public Works staff noted that the contract is a one-year contract with up to four additional one-year renewals and that the Alternate will remain on the Qualified Proposer List.

i) Public Comment Period

Chair Petschauer noted that public comments are the opinion of that individual.

Debbie Enos (Council for Watershed Health) expressed support for ActiveSGV, noting the organization's ability to bring a strong community focus to the SCW Program. Enos added that ActiveSGV has been a trusted community-based organization since 2010 and has successfully expanded multi-benefit projects through grassroots outreach.

Andrew Yip (Resident, City of Alhambra) expressed support for ActiveSGV, noting strong regional presence as many staff members serve on technical boards and committees across the San Gabriel Valley and have played key roles in helping cities implement projects.

ii) Vote to Select RH Watershed Area Watershed Coordinator

Member Alex Tachiki made a motion to appoint ActiveSGV as the Primary Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator and Advanced Media Works, Inc. as the Alternate Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator, seconded by Member Tabatabai. The Committee voted to approve the motion, with 7 in favor, 2 votes in abstention, and 5 votes opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

b) WASC Roles and Responsibilities

Emily Ng (Stantec, Regional Coordination) provided an overview of the SCW Program and WASC roles and responsibilities. [Presentation slides](#) can be found on the SCW Program website.

c) Selection of Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-Chairs

Public Works staff provided an overview of the Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-Chair selection process. Ng also shared that other WASCs have opted to use a Co-Chair system to distribute responsibilities.

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i) Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

ii) Vote to Select Chair, Vice-Chair or Co-Chairs

Member Jill Fosselman made a motion to reappoint Dawn Petschauer as Chair and Tom Love as Vice-Chair, seconded by Member Bryan Matsumoto. The Committee voted to approve the motion, with 14 votes in favor, 0 votes in abstention, and 0 votes opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

d) Regional Program Mid-Year Report Summary for FY24-25

Melanie Rivera (HDR, Reporting Coordinator) presented on the Regional Program Mid-Year Report for Fiscal Year (FY) 24-25. The reporting period spanned July 1 to December 31, 2024. Rivera provided an overview of submitted Mid-Year Report Summaries. [Presentation slides](#) can be found on the SCW Program website.

Committee Members discussed statewide policy changes that allow park development projects to be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which could enable faster approval for parks and trails. Public Works staff clarified that CEQA compliance is still required for SCW Program projects.

Upon inquiry, Kara Plourde (Los Angeles County Public Works, Project Developer) explained that funds have been expended for the Mt. Lowe Median Stormwater Capture Project but have not been received.

e) Summary of Submitted Projects and Scientific Studies for FY26-27

Watershed Coordinator Richard Watson provided an overview of submitted Infrastructure Program (IP) Projects and Scientific Studies (SS) for FY26-27. [Presentation slides](#) can be found on the SCW Program website.

The Committee discussed the connection between SS and IP Projects, highlighting the importance of observing how SS findings can translate into implementable projects. Chair Petschauer clarified that SS are primarily focused on data gathering.

Public Works staff clarified that Project and Study applicants will provide more details on Projects and Studies at future WASC meetings.

Upon inquiry, Antos noted that SS projects, notably the preSIP: A Platform for Watershed Science and Project Collaboration, have been integrated into the Watershed Plans to inform opportunity analyses. Public Works staff shared that the Initial Watershed Plans are open for public comment until September 28. Antos also shared that the November Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) meeting will be replaced with a SS Symposium to discuss consolidating SS efforts.

i) Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

ii) Vote to send all completed feasibility studies to the Scoring Committee

Chair Petschauer made a motion to send all completed Feasibility Studies to the Scoring Committee for consideration, seconded by Member Tabatabai. The Committee voted to approve the motion, with 14 votes in favor, 0 votes in abstention, and 0 votes opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

7) Public Comment Period

The Committee decided to hold public comment periods after each discussion item.

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8) Voting Items

a) Selection of Watershed Coordinator for the RH Watershed Area

The Committee voted on this item following Agenda Item 7a.

b) Selection of Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-Chairs

The Committee voted on this item following Agenda Item 7c.

c) Vote to send all completed feasibility studies to the Scoring Committee

The Committee voted on this item following Agenda Item 7e.

9) Items for Next Agenda

The next scheduled meeting is on Tuesday, October 21 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm, at the Monroe Room ([119 W Palm Ave, Monrovia, CA 91016](#)). Items to be discussed at the next meeting include:

a) Watershed Planning Phase 4 Engagement

Public Works staff noted that the ROC met on August 13 to discuss Initial Watershed Plans and shared that the public comment period on the Initial Watershed Plans will be open until September 28.

10) Adjournment

Chair Petschauer thanked the WASC Members and the public for their attendance and participation and adjourned the meeting.

Rio Hondo WASC - August 19, 2025									
Member Type	Position	Quorum Present				Voting Items			
		Member	Voting/ Present?	Alternate	Voting/ Present?	Approve 7/15/2025 Meeting Minutes	Appoint Active San Gabriel Valley as the Primary Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator and Advanced Media Works, Inc. as the Alternate Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator	Vote for Dawn (Pasadena) for Chair and Tom (USGD) for Vice- Chair of the Rio Hondo WASC	Vote to send all completed Feasibility Studies to the Scoring Committee for consideration
Agency	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	Julian Juarez		Alynn Sun	x	y	n	y	y
Agency	Upper San Gabriel District	Tom Love**		Patty Cortez					
Agency	Main San Gabriel Basin	Kelly Gardner		Lauren Augino	x	y	y	y	y
Agency	LA County Sanitation Districts	Shannon Bishop	x	Alysha Chan		y	a	y	y
Agency	Pasadena Public Works	Jeff Khun	x	Brent Maue		y	n	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Resident	Brian C. Tabatabai	x			y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Resident	Jill Fosselman	x			a	a	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Mayor Pro Tem - City of El Monte	Marisol Cortez							
Community Stakeholder	Nature for All	Bryan Matsumoto	x	Jade Nguyen		a	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder									
Municipal Members	City of Alhambra	Latoya Waters	x	Gehovanny Herrera		Not Present	n	y	y
Municipal Members	City of Arcadia	Briget Arndell	x	Carmen Masud		y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	City of Duarte	Stephanie Sandoval	x	Marvin Carpio		y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	City of Irwindale	Eddie Chan	x			Not Present	n	y	y
Municipal Members	City of Monrovia	Alex Tachiki	x	Sophia Sousa	x	a	y	y	y
Municipal Members	City of Pasadena	Dawn Petschauer*	x	James Tong		y	n	y	y
Municipal Members	LA County Public Works	Fernando Villaluna	x	Donna Tran		y	y	y	y
Watershed Coordinator/Non-Voting Member	RWA Planning	Richard Watson	x	Julie Millett	x				
Total Non-Vacant Seats		16				Yay (Y)	7	14	14
Total Voting Members Present		15				Nay (N)	5	0	0
Agency		4				Abstain (A)	2	0	0
Community Stakeholder		3				Total	14	14	14
Municipal Members		8				Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved

Attendees

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Alonso CWH	Donna Tran	Larry Tortuya - CWE
Alyson Mello	Dusadee Corhiran - LACPW	Linnet Khechatoorian
Amanda	Emily Huang Stantec	Marisela Velasquez - LACPW
Amanda Begley, TreePeople	Elsa Chan	Mark Hall GLAmosquito
Andrew Yip	Elyssa Lawrence	Melanie Rivera - HDR
Angie	Emily	Mayra Cabrera - LACPW
Anita Lin	Emily Ng - Regional Coordination	MB
Barbara Velasco	Enrique Baul	Mei-Lin Hanna JLHA
Call-in User_2	Farzad Kasmaei	Michelle Loekman
Call-in User_3	James- USGR WC	Nancy Verdin - Day One
Call-in User_4	Hayat Rasul	Nola Eaglin Talmage
Call-in User_5	Je-Show Yang	Oliver Galang Craftwater
Call-in User_6	Isabelle Russell	Pablo Forni - LACPW
Call-in User_7	James Powell - Craftwater	Richard Watson
Catherine Baltazar	Jason Jade Pepito	Ryanna Fossum
Christina Davila	Jose L Zavala	Safe Clean Water LA
Christy Zamani	Julian Juarez	Sofia Cardenas - LACDPW
Claire Robinson	Kara Plourde	Uriel Cobian - LACPW
Craig Doberstein	Katie Harrel CWE	Thomas Le
Daniel Apt	Kevin Lai	Thuan Nguyen
Debbie Enos	Kirk Allen - LACPW	Tori Kjer
Diane	Kristina Kreter	Valeria
Diego T Zavala		



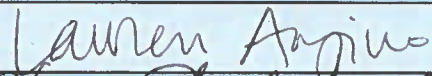
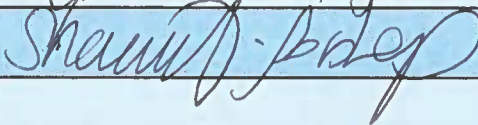
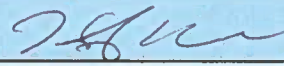
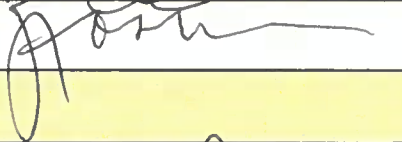
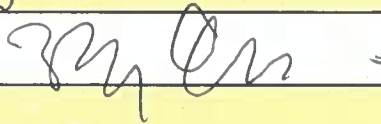
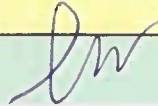
Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	P/A	Signature
Gehovanny Herrera	Alhambra	A	
Briget Arndell	Arcadia	P	Barnell
Carmen Masud	Arcadia	A	
Fernando Villaluna	LA County Public Works	P	Th
Donna Tran	LA County Public Works	A	
Alex Tachiki	Monrovia	P	
Sophia Sousa	Monrovia	A	
Dawn Petschauer	Pasadena	P	Doyle
James Tong	Pasadena	A	
Eddie Chan	Irwindale	P	
Stephanie Sandoval	Duarte	P	SS
Marvin Carpio	Duarte	A	
Richard Watson	RWA	WC	
Julie Millett	RWA	WC	

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COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	P/A	Signature
Julian Juarez	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	P	
Alynn Sun	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	A	
Tom Love	Upper San Gabriel District	P	
Patty Cortez	Upper San Gabriel District	A	
Kelly Gardner	Main San Gabriel Basin	P	
Lauren Augino	Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster	A	
Shannon Bishop	Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts	P	
Alysha Chan	Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts	A	
Jeff Khun	Pasadena		
Brent Maue	Pasadena	A	
Brian C. Tabatabai	Resident - City of West Covina	P	
Jill Fosselman	Resident	P	
Marisol Cortez		P	
Bryan Matsumoto	Nature For All	P	
Jade Nguyen	Nature For All	A	
Latoya Waters	Alhambra	P	

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PUBLIC SIGN-IN



First Name	Last Name	Municipality/Organization	Email Address
Jenna	Cobb	Active SBV	
David	Diaz	Active SBV	
Brianna	Datti	Craftwater	
Stephanie	Sandoval	Co D	
MacKenzie	Bolger	SBV COB	
Courtney	Semlow	Craftwater	