

# Regional Oversight Committee

## Meeting Minutes

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Wednesday, January 14, 2026  
1:00 – 4:00pm  
LA County Public Works Headquarters, Alhambra Room  
900 S. Fremont Ave, Alhambra, CA 91803

Zoom Meeting

### Committee Members Present:

Maria Mehranian, Cordoba/Former Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Chair, Vice-Chair  
Diana Tang, Long Beach Water Department, Chair  
Kristine Guerrero, League of California Cities  
Belinda Faustinos, Retired NGO & State Agency Executive  
Lauren Ahkiam, LAANE  
Diana Mahmud, Former City Councilmember, City of South Pasadena  
Carl Blum, Los Angeles County Flood Control District (non-voting member)  
Norma Camacho, Former Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Chair (non-voting member)

### Committee Members Attending Virtually:

Barbara Romero, City of Los Angeles

### Committee Members Not Present:

Charles Treviño, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

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### **Meeting Summary:**

The ROC discussed the revised draft 2026 Biennial Progress Report, developed by the Biennial Progress Report Working Group with support from Public Works staff. The ROC voted to open a public comment period for the draft 2026 Biennial Progress Report.

### **Key Action Items:**

- The 2026 Biennial Progress Report will be released for a 30-day Public Comment Period.
  - Public Works staff will incorporate requested topics as updates at future ROC meetings, including financial forecasting and fiscal oversight, eligibility requirements, and the Workforce Development Program.
  - The Biennial Progress Report Working Group will review additional feedback and incorporate input into recommendations.
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### **1. Welcome and Attendee Instructions**

Diana Tang, Chair of the Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program Regional Oversight Committee (ROC), welcomed Committee Members and members of the public and called the meeting to order.

### **2. Roll Call**

The Executive Clerk conducted a brief tutorial on Zoom and announced that the meeting was being broadcast live in Spanish.

### **3. Agenda Review and Meeting Purpose**

Chair Tang reviewed the agenda and shared that the purpose of the meeting is to review the draft 2026 Biennial Progress Report and consider initiating a public comment period. Chair Tang shared that the Biennial Progress Report was developed at the direction of the Biennial Progress Report Working Group,

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which included Chair Tang, Member Belinda Faustinos, Member Norma Camacho, Member Diana Mahmud, and Member Carl Blum.

#### 4. *Ex Parte* Communication Disclosures

There were no ex parte communication disclosures.

#### 5. Approval of September 10, 2025 and October 8, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Chair Tang presented the meeting minutes from September 10, 2025, and October 8, 2025. Member Faustinos motioned to approve the September 10 and October 8 meeting minutes, with an amendment made to the October 8 meeting minutes to revise Member Lauren Ahkiam as “present” in the attached attendance tracker. Vice-Chair Maria Mehranian seconded. The September 10 and October 8 meeting minutes were approved with 7 votes in favor, 0 in abstention, and 0 opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

#### 6. Program Administration Updates

Public Works staff provided updates, noting:

- The ROC has one vacant Committee Member seat. Interest forms are available on the [SCW Program website](#). Mid-term appointments are backfilled by the Public Works Director, acting in the role of Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, in consultation with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) offices.
- Jolene Guerrero will now serve as Public Works’ Deputy Director for Water Resources.
- The public comment period for the draft Initial Watershed Plans and Tools closed at the end of September. A summary of the feedback received was presented at the October ROC meeting. Public Works staff is finalizing the draft Initial Watershed Plans according to feedback given by the ROC and Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs), as well as at public meetings and through public comments. The final versions will be released in February and an update on Watershed Plans is agendaized for the February ROC meeting.
- The SCW Program Cross-County Working Group kickoff meeting occurred on January 6. The next Working Group meeting will be held in the spring.
- The Community Strengths and Needs Assessment (CSNA) continues to receive survey submissions, currently totaling more than 1,200 responses.
- Public Works staff performed completeness checks on SCW Program applications. Within the Regional Program, three Scientific Study applications were deemed ineligible. Public Works staff is in the process of developing supplemental guidance to help inform Scientific Study applicants in the future.
- The inaugural Scientific Symposium, held in November 2025, demonstrated the scientific spirit of the SCW Program and spotlighted regional collaboration in stormwater science.
- Eight Watershed Coordinator contracts were finalized and commenced on January 1. Of the remaining four contracts, two are pending execution, and two are pending internal review by the County.
- Only one municipal Transfer Agreement remains outstanding, and staff are engaged with that municipality.
- Infrastructure Program Project highlights:
  - Hermosillo Park, a multi-benefit park in the Lower San Gabriel Watershed Area that serves a disadvantaged community, hosted a groundbreaking ceremony on December 6.
  - Via Princesa Park and Regional BMP Project, a multi-benefit park in the Santa Clara River Watershed, will host a groundbreaking at 10:00am on January 22.
- The second County Water Plan (CWP) Annual Board Report highlights key implementation updates from the four Task Forces and has been submitted to the Board. The CWP Dashboard has been updated to reflect the latest available target data.
- Upcoming deadlines:

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- February 15 – Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Mid-Year Regional Reports are due with expenditures from July-December of 2025.
- April 1 – Municipal Plans are due, forecasting revenue for FY2026-27.
- The Scoring Committee scored 29 Infrastructure Program Projects over six meetings. 26 Projects passed the scoring threshold and will move on to WASC consideration. Scoring rubrics for all passing and non-passing Projects are available on the [SCW Program website](#).
- Public Works staff received 31 Project Modification Requests (PMRs). Of the PMRs received, six were deemed unnecessary, five were scheduling changes only, one was withdrawn, 17 were deemed consistent with the relevant Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP), and eight were preliminarily deemed inconsistent. The inconsistent PMRs will return to the relevant WASC for review.
- The existing Scientific Studies Peer Review Panel will provide third-party review summaries to WASCs in the coming weeks.

Member Camacho asked if the Board is looking for specific expertise to fill the vacant ROC seat. Public Works staff shared that the Board is not looking for a specific subject matter expertise, as there are sufficient subject-matter experts on the ROC representing Water Quality, Water Supply, Nature-Based Solutions, and Community Investment Benefits. Member Camacho expressed interest in adding a Committee Member with expertise in Nature-Based Solutions.

Member Mahmud underlined the importance of sharing information on SCW Program Projects' ribbon-cutting ceremonies and requested that Committee Members be notified of future events. Member Mahmud noted that two Projects have yet to submit semi-annual progress reports and suggested that the ROC discuss ramifications for failure to comply with reporting requirements. Member Mahmud also requested that when large reports are under review by the ROC that hardcopy versions be offered for Members in advance of the relevant meeting.

Public Works staff shared that there is a lapsed funds provision stating that funds can be reclaimed if no progress on a given Project is demonstrated for a five-year period. Failure to fulfill reporting requirements could make funds eligible for reclamation.

Member Blum asked if the submitted PMRs point to any trends, commenting that the number of PMRs that Public Works received seemed high. Public Works staff explained that, of the eight inconsistent PMRs, five asked for a collective increase in funding of approximately \$21 million. Three of those five PMRs also noted additional leverage funding of \$21.2 million, demonstrating that projects are also pursuing funding outside of the SCW Program.

### 7. Public Comment Period

Six public comment cards were submitted prior to the meeting and can be found on the [SCW Program website](#). Virtual attendees, call-in users, and in-person attendees were invited to provide public comment.

Katie Evers (Center for Watershed Protection) commented on the importance of the operations & maintenance (O&M) partnership between the City of Pasadena and the Center for Watershed Protection through the Clean Water Certificate Program. Evers shared that the Clean Water Certificate Program provides training to individuals to help meet Los Angeles' regional maintenance needs. Evers commented on the importance of O&M in ensuring regional projects continue to deliver benefits in the future.

Sherreeta White (City of Pasadena) expressed support for the City of Pasadena's proposed Building A Green Infrastructure Workforce in the LA Region Scientific Study proposal. White shared about the City of Pasadena's Municipal Assistance, Solutions, and Hiring (MASH) Program, and commented about the importance of O&M and workforce development's impacts on stormwater capture capacity and the SCW Program.

Dawn Petschauer (City of Pasadena) shared about the City of Pasadena's Building A Green Infrastructure Workforce in the LA Region Scientific Study proposal. Petschauer commented that, while ongoing

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discussions with Public Works on potential collaborations are underway, nothing has yet been realized. Petschauer expressed that the proposed Scientific Study is aligned with the SCW Regional Program and offers regional benefits. Petschauer highlighted the City of Pasadena's MASH Program and its 40-year partnership with the Center for Watershed Protection and urged the Committee to allow the City to present at Watershed Area Steering Committees to decide where the proposed study is best aligned.

Jeff Khun (City of Pasadena) expressed the need for consistent workforce development training. Khun highlighted the City of Pasadena and Center for Watershed Protection's longstanding Clean Water Certificate Program's success and recommended that the Clean Water Certificate Program be adapted to the specific needs of the region. Khun shared that the City of Pasadena is committed to advancing workforce development and has dedicated \$500,000 of local funds to support the study.

Jessica Rivas (City of Pasadena) commented on the gap between green infrastructure and a trained workforce. Rivas noted that proper maintenance is essential to water quality performance, infiltration capacity, and resiliency. Rivas shared that regional and state partners have expressed strong support and interest in adopting the curriculum once it is developed.

Bruce Reznik (LA Waterkeeper) thanked the Committee for their work on the Biennial Progress Report. Reznik commented that the Biennial Progress Report is critical to ensuring SCW Program goals are met as efficiently and effectively as possible. Reznik highlighted recommendations from the Our Water Los Angeles (OWLA) Coalition letter submitted and available on the SCW Program website. Reznik urged the Committee to direct each WASC to develop a comprehensive 20-year investment plan and suggested that recommendations related to community-oriented aspects of the SCW Program be elevated as critical.

Maggie Gardner (OWLA Coalition) summarized some recommendations from the OWLA Coalition letter. Gardner urged more consistent and clear metrics and definitions for Community Investment Benefits, community engagement and community support, Nature-Based Solutions, Disadvantaged Community Benefits, workforce impacts, and Project Labor Agreement (PLA) compliance. Gardner also commented on the importance of new greenscape and removal of hardscape, the implementation of the District's K-12 and workforce development programs, and more streamlined application processes for smaller projects.

Annelisa Moe (Heal the Bay, OWLA Coalition) reiterated recommendations from Gardner's public comment and urged the ROC to review OWLA's full letter of recommendations. Moe highlighted recommendations to make community engagement a minimum eligibility requirement for future applications and the need for WASCs to develop 20-year investment plans to ensure financial stability.

The ROC discussed public comments made. Member Blum suggested that the Scoring Criteria consider whether applications have an O&M plan, and that projects be designed to be properly maintained. Member Blum emphasized that O&M funding is increasingly critical and should be a focus of the SCW Program. Member Mehranian highlighted that the City of Los Angeles Proposition O funded many infrastructure projects, but the absence of dedicated O&M funding sometimes led to poor performance.

In response to Petschauer's public comment, Member Camacho requested the ROC agendaize an item about project eligibility to better understand how the ROC could provide oversight. Member Camacho concurred with Member Mehranian's comments and suggested dedicated earmarked funding for O&M.

Member Lauren Ahkiam requested that Public Works provide an update on the SCW Program's Workforce Development Program, given several public comments related to workforce development.

### **8. Voting Item: Draft 2026 Biennial Progress Report and Open Public Comment Period**

Public Works staff presented on the Draft 2026 Biennial Progress Report. [Presentation slides](#) and the [Draft 2026 Biennial Progress Report](#) can be found on the SCW Program website.

Member Mehranian noted that the Biennial Progress Report was a collaborative effort and expressed support for initiating the 30-Day Public Comment Period.

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Member Mahmud concurred with Member Mehranian and recommended minor revisions. Member Mahmud recommended expanding the bullet points on page eight of the Introduction to include more information about Adaptive Management of the program. Member Mahmud requested that 2025 Project completion dates be updated with actual dates. Member Mahmud emphasized Recommendation Two about financial forecasting and reserves, and highlighted the need to establish more robust contingencies when Projects are approved. Member Mahmud concurred with Members Blum and Camacho on the importance of O&M and suggested that developers identify additional O&M funding beyond SCW Program funding.

Member Ahkiam expressed appreciation for Recommendations Five and Six, which would streamline applications for smaller projects. Member Ahkiam also highlighted Recommendation 11 and suggested more specific reporting requirements be added to better track progress related to compliance with Regional Program requirements around community workforce, targeted local hire, and Project Labor Agreements. Member Ahkiam expressed a desire for the Board to clarify Project Labor Agreement compliance language so project applicants can more clearly understand compliance expectations.

Member Faustinos recommended that community engagement become a minimum requirement for project applications and that it be incorporated into future Scoring Criteria updates.

Member Faustinos thanked the City of Pasadena for providing public comment and highlighted that a report-back on the District's Workforce Development Program will occur at an upcoming meeting. Member Faustinos encouraged the Program to maximize the use of existing workforce development programs across the County.

Member Camacho emphasized the need to communicate both projected and realized Program benefits to the public, particularly as more projects shift from the planning and design phase to the construction phase.

Member Romero noted that green space and workforce development are important aspects of the SCW Program. Member Romero acknowledged that the draft Biennial Progress Report helps the ROC communicate progress and highlight moments of adaptation.

Upon inquiry, Public Works staff shared public comments will be reviewed with the Biennial Progress Report Working Group prior to the March ROC meeting.

Member Faustinos requested that ROC Members receive materials five working days in advance of the relevant ROC meeting, or the Friday before the meeting, to ensure time for review.

Chair Tang motioned to approve the draft Biennial Progress Report and open the 30-day Public Comment Period. Member Guerrero seconded the motion. The motion passed with 7 votes in favor, 0 votes in opposition, and 0 abstentions (approved, see vote tracker).

### **9. Information Item: Anticipated Updates to Regional Program 2026 Call for Projects**

Public Works staff presented anticipated updates to the Regional Program for the Round 8 Call for Projects, which closes July 31, 2026. Presentation slides can be found on the [SCW Program website](#).

Member Faustinos asked if the 2026 Call for Projects for the FY2027-28 SIP will include revisions to the Scoring Criteria. Public Works staff clarified that the major Scoring Criteria revisions related to the draft 2026 Biennial Progress Report's Recommendation 5 would be included in the 2027 Call for Projects for the FY2028-29 SIP (Round 9).

Member Camacho asked how the Watershed Plans are being incorporated into the upcoming 2026 Call for Projects. Public Works staff noted that the addition of the 20<sup>th</sup> Feasibility Study Requirement will request applicants to explain how their project aligns with the Watershed Plans, and that demonstration of Watershed Planning tools will be part of the Call for Projects informational sessions scheduled for late Spring 2026.

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Member Ahkiam requested that, in the next round of updates to the SCW Program application, applicants be required to indicate whether their project will be covered by a local workforce agreement. Member Ahkiam suggested that guidance also be included to remind applicants of local hire requirements.

Member Mahmud asked when individual project applications will be required to develop a minimum contingency budget. Public Works staff shared that this requirement could be considered for the 2027 Call for Projects, when Public Works will have more informed financial forecasts.

### **10. Information Item: Two-Year Look Ahead**

Public Works staff shared the intent to develop a two-year schedule for the ROC, to better support timelines for the Biennial Progress Report as well as for Regional, Municipal, and District Program updates.

Chair Tang requested that staff print the Two-Year Look Ahead on larger paper and bring physical copies to each future ROC meeting. Member Mahmud recommended that Public Works consider moving the Winter Recess from December to January to ease the burden on staff.

Member Blum suggested that Regional and Municipal Program updates be reframed as Watershed Updates, expressing that melding these two perspectives would provide important insight into how each aspect of the SCW Program is coming together. Member Blum also highlighted the importance of connecting O&M and workforce development plans, as well as the need to deepen the SCW Program's collaborative partnership with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board).

Member Camacho suggested that the ROC review the Board Report from Public Works Director Mark Pestrella that accompanies the Biennial Progress Report. Member Camacho commented that the County Water Plan Regional Water Reliability Task Force lays the groundwork to identify and develop solutions for regulatory and permitting challenges.

### **11. ROC Member Updates**

Member Camacho shared that there is a Regional Board meeting next week to discuss 2025 progress and plans for 2026. Member Camacho expressed an intent to discuss the need for partnership between the Regional Board and the SCW Program.

### **12. Items for Next Agenda / Look Ahead**

Public Works staff shared a look ahead of 2026 ROC meetings, which can be found on the [SCW Program website](#). Items for the next agenda include:

- a. Preview of Initial Watershed Plans to be Published and Review of Approach for Adaptive Plans**

### **13. Meeting Adjourned**

Chair Tang thanked ROC Members and the public and adjourned the meeting at 3:25 PM.

## Regional Oversight Committee - January 14, 2026

		Quorum Present			
Member Type	Member	Present?	Approve the September 10 and October 8 2025 Meeting Minutes with amendment to September roster	The Safe, Clean Water Program Regional Oversight Committee moves to: •Approve the Draft 2026 Biennial Progress Report for Public Review and Open Public Comment Period	
Voting Member	Maria Mehranian	X	Y	Y	
Voting Member	Barbara Romero	X	Y	Y	
Voting Member	Diana Tang	X	Y	Y	
Voting Member	Kristine Guerrero	X	Y	Y	
Voting Member	Belinda Faustinos	X	Y	Y	
Voting Member	Lauren Ahkiam	X	Y	Y	
Voting Member	Charles Trevino				
Voting Member	<i>vacant</i>				
Voting Member	Diana Mahmud	X	Y	Y	
Non-Voting Member	Carl Blum	X			
Non-Voting Member	Norma Camacho	X			
Total Non-Vacant Seats	9	Yay (Y)		7	
Total Voting Members Present	7	Nay (N)		0	
		Abstain (A)		0	
		Total		7	
				Approved	

# Regional Oversight Committee Meeting

## COMMITTEE MEMBER SIGN-IN

DO NOT REMOVE



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Email Address	Signature
<b>Voting Members</b>			
Barbara Romero	City of Los Angeles	[REDACTED]	AB 2449 ←
Belinda Faustinos	<del>Nature For All</del> <i>Nature For All</i>	[REDACTED]	<i>BN Faustinos</i>
Charles Trevino	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	[REDACTED]	AB 821 ←
Diana Tang	City of Long Beach	[REDACTED]	<i>[Signature]</i>
Diana Mahmud	ate	[REDACTED]	<i>Diana Mahmud</i>
Kristine Guerrero	League of Cities	[REDACTED]	<i>[Signature]</i>
Lauren Ahkiam	LAANE	[REDACTED]	<i>[Signature]</i>
Maria Mehranian	Cordoba, Former RWQCB Chair	[REDACTED]	<i>[Signature]</i>
Empty	Empty	Empty	N/A
<b>Non-Voting Members</b>			
Carl Blum	Flood Control District	[REDACTED]	<i>Carl Blum</i>
Norma Camacho	Former LA Regional Water Quality Control Board Chair	[REDACTED]	<i>Norma Camacho</i>

Regional Oversight Committee Meeting  
PUBLIC SIGN-IN

DO NOT REMOVE



First Name	Last Name	Municipality/Organization	Email Address
Bruce	Reinik	LA Waterkeeper	[REDACTED]
Maggie	Gardner	LA Waterkeeper	
Jeff	Khun	PASADENA	
CESAR	RAMIREZ	PASADENA	
JESSICA	RIVAS	Pasadena PW	
Dawn	Petschauer	Pasadena	
YVANA	HRVAT	Bleu & Veatch	

\*Signing or completing this form is voluntary for members of the public



# Public Comment Form

Name\*: Kaitie Evers Organization\*: Center for Watershed Protection

Email\*: [REDACTED] Phone\*: [REDACTED]

Meeting: Regional Oversight Committee Meeting Date: 12/10/2025

LA County Public Works may contact me for clarification about my comments  
 \*Per Brown Act, completing this information is optional. At a minimum, please include an identifier so that you may be called upon to speak.

Phone participants and the public are encouraged to submit public comments (or a request to make a public comment) to [SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov). All public comments will become part of the official record.

Please complete this form and email to [SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov) by at least 5:00pm the day prior to the meeting with the following subject line: "Public Comment: [Watershed Area] [Meeting Date]" (ex. "Public Comment: USGR 4/8/20").

## Comments

My name is Kaitie Evers, and I manage the Clean Water Certificate Program at the Center for Watershed Protection. Speaking directly to something that everyone here understands: maintenance is the backbone of effective stormwater management. It's easy to celebrate the installation of a brand-new green infrastructure project, the ribbon cuttings, the renderings. But the real work, the real impact, comes years later, when that practice is still functioning, still capturing runoff, and still protecting downstream communities. That only happens with consistent, skilled maintenance. National research shows that for every 1 million invested in stormwater, an average of 13 jobs are created. Pasadena itself has already invested over 900 million on green infrastructure in the past 6 years and with project expansion comes maintenance expansion. That's where our partnership comes in with the Clean Water Certificate Program. We have a training pathway designed to make maintenance knowledge accessible to every learner. Participants are evaluated on their ability to perform, communicate, and problem-solve, not just take a test. Our learners report not only a deep understanding of how stormwater plays a role in their own communities, but they leave with the confidence to step into the workforce prepared and capable. No GED or prior experience needed, participants receive a nationally accredited certificate with no continuing education requirements. It is built to open doors, remove employment barriers and provide pathways to living wage jobs. By partnering with Pasadena, we are excited not only to bring this pathway to local residents but to develop the next level of training specifically tailored to LA regional maintenance needs. This is an opportunity to strengthen local workforce development, support long-term compliance, and ensure every project built in the region continues to deliver clean water benefits for decades. We are committed to being a partner in expanding stormwater workforce capacity in LA, and we welcome the



# Public Comment Form

Name\*: Amanda H. Pollack, P.E. Organization\*: Center for Watershed Protection  
Email\*: [REDACTED] Phone\*: [REDACTED]  
Meeting: Regional Oversight Committee Date: 12/10/2025

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## Comments

Hello. My name is Amanda Pollack, PE, and I'm the Director of Training and a Senior Water Resources Engineer at the Center for Watershed Protection. The Center was founded in 1992, and for more than 30 years we have been a national leader in stormwater management and professional training. We are a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing clean water and healthy ecosystems through responsible land and water management. Our programs focus on Training, Stormwater Consulting, and Research. Today, I'm here to highlight the workforce development component of our training program. The Center developed the Clean Water Certificate, or CWC Program, which is a workforce development initiative that provides a nationally accredited credential for entry-level professionals in the stormwater industry. The program is accredited through the American National Standards Institute's National Accreditation Board, meaning it meets rigorous, internationally recognized standards. The CWC program teaches practical, hands-on skills in green infrastructure and stormwater construction and maintenance. CWC provides fair, equitable assessment for all participants. No prior experience is required—the curriculum is designed specifically for individuals entering the field with no background in stormwater. Participants who successfully complete the program receive a certificate that does not expire and does not require continuing education. Our goal is to build career pathways by connecting trained graduates with public, private, and nonprofit employers offering living-wage jobs. We operate across the country, training both CWC participants and new instructors so the program can be delivered locally and sustainably. We are excited to partner with the City of Pasadena as the first West Coast community to adopt and adapt this program to meet local needs and support bilingual communities. This is an important step in expanding a national training network and ensuring the Los Angeles region has access to the same high-quality, accredited workforce development opportunities available elsewhere in the country. Thank you.



# Public Comment Form

Name\*: Sherreeta White Organization\*: City of Pasadena, MASH Program

Email\*: [REDACTED] Phone\*: [REDACTED]

Meeting: Regional Oversight Meeting Date: 1/14/2026

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

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## Comments

For more than forty years, MASH has served as one of the region's most effective municipal workforce development programs, providing full-time, paid, hands-on training to residents who are under- or unemployed seeking municipal career pathways. Our program is open across LA County and our mission is to open doors, build skills, and create long-term employment pipelines that strengthen our community and regional workforce. We have a 90% success rate in trainees transition into stable, long-term careers—in Pasadena and county-wide. We have a proven record of ensuring participants gain both income stability and real-world experience while developing the technical skills needed for long-term employment in areas such as landscaping and essential municipal services. Green infrastructure maintenance is a natural extension of this work. It is hands-on, field-based, and deeply rooted in public service—the kind of training environment where MASH excels. Yet today, there is no standardized curriculum, no recognized credential, and no formal regional training pathway to prepare workers for this rapidly growing field. Pasadena's proposed Study would change that. It would allow MASH to integrate the Clean Water Certificate program into our existing training model and expand our curriculum to include training for infrastructure the Program is investing in, promoting real green careers. This training directly supports clean water regional initiatives. By equipping trainees with the skills to maintain green infrastructure we are strengthening the workforce responsible for safeguarding our waters, which aligns with Program Goals M and N, because a trained workforce is essential to keeping projects operational long term. This is a rare opportunity to connect environmental goals with economic mobility—something MASH has delivered 40+ years. While the District has deemed the study ineligible, Pasadena will continue moving forward and remains committed to working to build a green-infrastructure workforce program that supports the needs of our region. Thank you.



# Public Comment Form

Name:\* Dawn Petschauer Organization\*: City of Pasadena  
Email\*: [REDACTED] Phone\*: [REDACTED]  
Meeting: Regional Oversight Meeting Date: 1/14/2026

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## Comments

I'm here regarding Pasadena's Scientific Study, Building a Green Infrastructure Workforce for the LA Region—a study that was uploaded to the project portal and invited to present at the CSMB WASC, where we received strong support, before the District deemed it ineligible I am respectfully asking this body—the ROC—to exercise its oversight role and request that our Study be allowed to present so the WASCs and ROC can evaluate its merit openly and in alignment with the ordinance. Pasadena's MASH Program is a 40-plus-year municipal workforce development system, one of the longest-running in California. It brings in participants from across the region and places trainees into multiple cities, including Los Angeles and LA County. MASH is a functioning, regional workforce engine already embedded in municipal operations. By contrast, the County's proposed workforce program—while valuable—is not GI-specific, not operations-based, and will take years to develop, assuming it is ever fully realized. After six rounds of SCWP implementation, there is still no GI workforce pathway, no curriculum, and no system to meet the long-term O&M obligations that this Program depends on. Our Study fills that gap now. It builds on MASH's 40-year legacy and on our partnership with the CWP and their Clean Water Certificate to create the first region-scalable GI O&M training model. I want to emphasize there is no such thing as too much workforce development. This Program should be championing every credible workforce initiative, not limiting them. SCWP needs all hands building equitable, skilled, local pathways into this field. Finally, I want to acknowledge this Committee's role, which is charged with ensuring fairness, consistency, transparency, and ordinance alignment across the Program. The Ordinance assigns the evaluation of Scientific Studies to the WASCs, with ROC oversight—not to the District. ULAR and USGR WASCs have already acted to reclaim that authority. I respectfully urge the ROC to do the same.



# Public Comment Form

Name:\* Jeff Khun Organization\*: City of Pasadena

Email\*: [REDACTED] Phone\*: [REDACTED]

Meeting: Regional Oversight Meeting Date: 1/14/2026

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## Comments

Hello. My name is Jeff Khun, Landscape Architect with the City of Pasadena. For many years, I've designed and helped implement many of Pasadena's green-infrastructure and urban greening projects. Pasadena, like all Agencies, struggle with maintenance after the projects are completed as municipal staff lack the training to effectively maintain these systems. Even the best-designed projects fail without proper, standardized maintenance training.

Across Pasadena and cities throughout the region—we see recurring issues: basins draining poorly because staff wasn't trained in pretreatment maintenance, native vegetation pruned incorrectly which compromises pollutant removal, infiltration systems clogged because maintenance teams lack correct inspection techniques. These challenges are not the result of neglect—they're the result of a systemwide lack of training and education. There is a clear need for consistent, regional training and a specialized workforce.

Our study builds on Pasadena's long standing workforce development program's success, and CWP's Clean Water Certificate program, adapting to the specific needs of the region. This ensures the training reflects real local conditions and regional investment.

Pasadena is committed to advancing this work. We have dedicated \$500,000 of local funds to support the study to ensure the success of our projects—but this is a regional gap, not just a Pasadena need. We are continuing this effort, despite the District's decision to eliminate support and funding, though we may need to scale the study to fit our resources. We are committed to coordinating with local partners so that this becomes a resource accessible beyond Pasadena.

Thank you.



# Public Comment Form

Name\*: Jessica Rivas Organization\*: City of Pasadena

Email\*: [REDACTED] Phone\*: [REDACTED]

Meeting: Regional Oversight Meeting Date: 1/14/2026

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

\*Per Brown Act, completing this information is optional. At a minimum, please include an identifier so that you may be called upon to speak.

Phone participants and the public are encouraged to submit public comments (or a request to make a public comment) to [SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov). All public comments will become part of the official record.

Please complete this form and email to [SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov) by at least 5:00pm the day prior to the meeting with the following subject line: "Public Comment: [Watershed Area] [Meeting Date]" (ex. "Public Comment: USGR 4/8/20").

## Comments

Good afternoon, members of the WASC. My name is Jessica Rivas, Program Coordinator with Pasadena and the lead for the City's proposed Regional Workforce Development Study. Our team has conducted broad outreach—locally, regionally, and statewide—to understand the gaps in green-infrastructure maintenance training. What we heard was remarkably consistent: green infrastructure is being built at a rapid pace, but the trained workforce needed to maintain it is not keeping up. That gap puts the community, municipalities and the Program at risk. This is not only a professional concern—it's also a personal one. I volunteered with Outward Bound Adventures in Pasadena. Through that work, I've spent time with youth and young adults who are deeply interested in environmental careers. I've also seen how few clear, accessible career pathways exist in green maintenance. From my City perspective, we are investing in more nature-based and stormwater-focused infrastructure than ever before, yet our staff lacks the training required to maintain these systems effectively. There is a real, urgent regional need for a trained, local workforce that reflects these emerging careers. Despite the District's deeming our study ineligible, it directly advances two of Program's goals by ensuring long term maintenance and creating meaningful green-job pathways—especially for underserved communities. Moreso, proper maintenance is essential to water-quality performance, infiltration capacity, and resiliency. Workforce development is our region's biggest need, and our outreach makes that clear. The Program is losing a significant opportunity by eliminating our study, as Pasadena is committed to moving forward, committing \$500K of our local dollars, and regional and state partners have expressed strong support and interest in adopting the curriculum once developed. Pasadena is committed to pursuing regional collaboration absent of District program funding and support. Please reach out if interested in staying engaged with Pasadena's workforce. Thank you.

Name (original name)

Felicia Williams

GJK

Nancy Shrodes (she/her)

Dee Corhiran

Amanda Begley

Katie Harrel (CWE)

Melina Watts

KMoreno

Darin Seegmiller (Santa Clara River WASC)

Meeting Room (Hayat Rasul | Stantec)

Julie Millett

Kiley Beaart

Joyann Sofio

Kristina Kreter

Alonso Garcia

Veronica Carrillo

Mike Scaduto

Susana Arredondo Los Angeles Water Board

1310

Nenetzin Rodriguez

Eric Wilson

Azucena Ramirez

Emily Ng (Stantec)

Heal the Bay

AKim

Brenda Ponton

Shana Rapoport

Executive Clerk (Mike Antos (Stantec))

359

Ryanna Fossum

Eric Bonilla

Raina Dwivedi

Conor Mossavi

Larry Tran - SCWP

Melina Watts

Annelisa Moe (she/her)

Tim Brick

Barbara Romero

Jenny Chau

Oliver Cramer

Mark Nguyen

Ryan Bennett

Drew Ready

AFelix  
Andrew Kim  
Mayra Cabrera  
Interpreter - Javier Morrone  
John Mendoza  
ThomEpps  
James Carpenter  
James, Day One.  
Alexander Iglesias  
MARLA FLORES  
Lisa Kim  
Javier 2nd device  
David Lee - LACPW  
Interpreter- Gabriela M. (GabrielaM.)  
Fred Gonzalez - LACPW  
Michael Ku  
Grey Crisanto  
Jason Pepito - LACFCD  
Brad Wardynski (Craftwater)  
Haley  
Bridget Lowry  
Sherreeta White-Pasadena MASH  
Thomas Le  
Javier Morrone  
Linet khechatoorian  
LKhechatoorian  
AZimmer  
Ryan Bennett  
JonPaul Sarro  
Melanie Hu  
Justin Jones  
Katherine Evers  
Alexia Skrbic  
Roger F. Vasquez  
Quinn Haaga, MWD  
Joe Venzon - LA County  
Taylor Paez (Greywater Corps)  
Richard Watson  
Valeria Mena  
Aric (JLHA)  
Jason Casanova, Council for Watershed Health