

Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Meeting Minutes



Thursday, December 4, 2025
1:30pm – 3:30pm
Los Angeles County Sanitation District – Conference Room E&F
1955 Workman Mill Rd
Whittier, CA 90601
WebEx Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Julian Juarez, Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Agency)
*Christopher Lapaz, Los Angeles County Sanitation District (Agency)
*Mayra Martinez Yasumura, Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation (Agency)
Manuel D. Perez, Valley Vista Services, Inc (Community)
David Marquez, Urban Semillas (Community)
Nicholas Delgado, Diamond Bar (Municipal)
Stephanie Ryan, Glendora (Municipal)
Mathew Hudson, Industry (Municipal), Chair
Eddie Chan, Irwindale (Municipal)
Julie Carver, Pomona (Municipal)
Rafael Piamonte, Los Angeles County (Municipal)
James Cortes, Day One (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

Committee Members Present Virtually

Drew Ready, Council for Watershed Health (Community)

Committee Members Not Present:

Tom Love, Upper San Gabriel District (Agency), Vice-Chair
Kelly Gardner, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster (Agency)
Jeanette Flores, Charter Oak Unified School District (Community)
Stephanie Sandoval, Duarte (Municipal)

*Committee Member Alternate

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

1) Welcome and Introductions

Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works) informed the Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) that Mathew Hudson, Chair of the Upper San Gabriel River (USGR) was running late to the meeting. Public Works Staff welcomed Committee Members, called the meeting to order, and facilitated Committee Member introductions. A quorum was established. Public Works staff provided a brief WebEx tutorial.

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 28, 2025

Public Works staff presented the meeting minutes from October 23, 2025. Member Manuel Perez motioned to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Member Julian Juarez. The WASC voted to approve the meeting minutes with 10 votes in favor, 2 votes in abstention, 0 votes opposed.

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3) Committee Member and Program Updates

Public works staff provided updates, noting:

- The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (FY25-26) Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) on November 4.
- Public Works staff have conducted completeness checks of applications. Completed Infrastructure Program (IP) Projects, once deemed complete, were brought to the WASC to send to the Scoring Committee for scoring. Program-wide, three Scientific Study (SS) Proposals were deemed ineligible for SS funding. Those proponents have been notified and are part of ongoing discussions with Public Works staff about other ways the projects may be able to advance through the District Program.
- The Scoring Committee has met five times since September and will re-score the last set of projects on December 15. Those projects that score above the threshold score will be sent to the WASCs for consideration in the SIPs.
- The deadline to submit a Project Modification Request (PMR) for consideration in the FY26-27 SIP was October 31. Public Works staff is in the process of reviewing submitted PMRs.
- The Science Symposium was held on November 12 at Los Angeles County Public Works Headquarters.
- The upcoming Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) meeting is scheduled for December 10 at 1:00pm where the ROC will discuss the Draft Biennial Progress Report, open the 30-day Public Comment Period, and discuss the next steps for the Initial Watershed Plans.
- The Quarter 2 2026 Leveraged Funding Report has been posted to the [SCW Program website](#) under the Resources tab. Public Works staff 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. Public Works staff and the Regional Coordination team are actively tracking activity to better understand impacts to future funding.

Upon inquiry, Public Works staff clarified that eligibility is determined by the District in accordance with Chapters 16 and 18 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code.

4) Watershed Coordinator Updates

Watershed Coordinator Updates were deferred until the next meeting.

5) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

There were no ex-parte communication disclosures.

6) Discussion Items

a) Scientific Studies Program (SS) Presentations [SCW Portal](#)

i. Climate Resistance and Resiliency: An Adaptive Framework for Stormwater Risk Management (San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments)

Brianna Datti (Craftwater, Project applicant), Mackenzie Bolger (San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG), Project applicant) introduced the Climate Resistance and Resiliency: An Adaptive Framework for Stormwater Risk Management SS, discussing proactive, adaptive strategies to

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achieve the goals of stormwater programs including the SCW Program in face of increasing challenges due to the effects of climate change. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Member David Marquez inquired as to how municipalities with existing local hazard mitigation plans would integrate this framework into their plans, and how communities without local hazard mitigation plans would integrate this framework. Datti responded that the SS will be working with each of the 31 agencies in the SGVCOG individually to determine where this framework will best fit into each agencies existing local hazard mitigation plan or whether a separate plan is more appropriate.

Member Drew Ready inquired if the risk of flood impacts to Water Quality and Water Supply will be considered in addition to the risk of drought impacts. Datti responded that flood impact is one of the five key pieces that the SS will look at. Datti explained that the team would use climate projected models for potential flooding dynamics and additional intensity of rainfall to determine a worst case scenario for areas potentially vulnerable to flood to determine Water Quality, Water Supply, infrastructure, and operations and maintenance impacts.

Upon inquiry, Datti shared that this SS will differ from other studies from institutions and agencies by leveraging previous studies and tools to characterize vulnerability and focusing directly on stormwater relevant impacts.

ii. A Holistic Assessment of Trash in Watersheds (Moore Institute for Plastic Pollution Research)

Win Cowger (Moore Institute for Plastic Pollution Research, Project applicant) introduced A Holistic Assessment of Trash in Watersheds and discussed how the SS would measure roadside trash loading, harmonize public trash data, and create watershed trash models and data portals. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Member Ready confirmed with Cowger that the duration of time between when trash is picked up in front of homes and when street sweepers come to streets will be a top priority of the SS. One of the goals of the scientific study is to quantify this effect and analyze potential improvements to the trash pickup process.

Member Rafael Piamonte commented that each Watershed Area in the SCW Program will have different trash generation rates and attributes and inquired about why the funding request for all WASCs was the same at \$390,000 each. Cowger explained that trash surveys will likely require the same effort every time, as surveys are considered complete when 100 pieces of trash are documented. Cowger commented that there may be a case where 100 pieces of trash are not found in a survey area. In that case, effort and cost will be lower for that survey.

Watershed Coordinator James Cortes recommended that the SS be framed in terms of water and water waste, and that sites selected would be more relevant to water waste, water quality, and water quantity. Watershed Coordinator Cortes requested more information about how the watershed litter model would help advance projects. Cowger responded that the SS will be a holistic assessment of trash in watersheds, and the watershed litter model will look at the flux of trash from the roadside to storm drains, and from rivers to the ocean. Cowger added that the goal is to quantify how well specific stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) are working to better inform planning.

Member Perez commented that ordinances for cities are extremely varied and expressed interest in seeing how the results of this SS may inform changes to ordinances and education.

iii. Regional CECs and Pollutant EMCs in Stormwater Assessment (University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA))

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Sanjay Mohanty (UCLA, Project applicant) and Dylan Ahearn (Herrera, Project applicant) introduced the Regional CECs and Pollutant EMCs in Stormwater Assessment SS, which would link land use to emerging contaminants such as PFAS, microplastics, and 6PPDQ to help guide future BMPs and planning. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Member Perez mentioned SB 1383, and how the bill shifted the issue of contamination to the composting market and expressed concerns about compost applications in many cities that may potentially be contaminated. Member Perez asked if the SS will consider compost as a part of the soil amendment recommendations. Mohanty responded that the SS will not consider compost because stormwater will be sampled and measured for contaminants at different locations, so it will not be possible to pinpoint what kind of compost has been used and where it has been used.

Member Ready clarified with Ahearn that the scientific study will be five years including planning, with three years of monitoring. Ahearn also clarified that efficacy of BMPs will not be considered, as measurements will be taken upstream of BMPs.

Watershed Coordinator Cortes inquired as to how non-stationary sources of contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) will be approached. Ahearn and Mohanty responded that the SS will not only look at land use, but aims to completely characterize basins in terms of percent impervious, number of dwellings, tree canopy, and average daily traffic, the latter of which being associated with mobile sources of CECs.

7) Public Comment Period

Dawn Petschauer (City of Pasadena) commented on the ineligibility determination for the City of Pasadena's application submitted to the Scientific Studies Program for the Building a Green Infrastructure Workforce in the LA Region, stating that the determination did not align with the SCW Program Ordinance.

Jeff Kuhn (City of Pasadena) commented on the ineligibility determination for the City of Pasadena's application submitted to the Scientific Studies Program for the Building a Green Infrastructure Workforce in the LA Region, noting challenges the City of Pasadena faces in maintaining green infrastructure projects due to limited staff training.

Jessica Rivas (City of Pasadena) commented on the ineligibility determination for the City of Pasadena's application submitted to the Scientific Studies Program for the Building a Green Infrastructure Workforce in the LA Region, noting that the proposal was intended to address maintenance staff knowledge gaps and support SCW Program goals related to long-term maintenance and creating green jobs.

Sherreeta White (City of Pasadena) commented on the ineligibility determination for the City of Pasadena's application submitted to the Scientific Studies Program for the Building a Green Infrastructure Workforce in the LA Region, noting the City of Pasadena's Municipal Assistance, Solutions, and Hiring (MASH) Program, which provides paid training opportunities throughout Los Angeles County and reports a job placement success rate of over 90 percent.

Lisa Skutecki (CDM Smith) commented on the A Holistic Assessment of Trash in Watersheds application submitted to the Scientific Studies Program, encouraging the applicant to reach out to Caltrans, given Caltrans' experience in investigating the trash issue across the state and implementation of trash BMPs.

Claire Robinson (Amigos de los Rios) commented on the ineligibility determination for the City of Pasadena's application submitted to the Scientific Studies Program for the Building a Green Infrastructure Workforce in the LA Region, expressing interest in studies that integrate research and practice. Robinson

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also commented on the ineligibility determination for Amigos de los Rios' Living Schoolyard Operations and Maintenance Training Pilot submittal.

Kaitie Evers (Center for Watershed Protection) commented that the Clean Water Certificate program focuses on green infrastructure maintenance training, reducing employment barriers and supporting pathways to living-wage jobs.

WASC Members requested additional information regarding ineligible applications to the Scientific Studies Program, how eligibility is determined, and what the WASC can do to support applicants in the future. Public Works Staff shared that updates will be shared at meetings during Program Updates.

8) Items for Next Agenda

The next meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2026 from 1:30pm to 4:30pm at Los Angeles County Sanitation District. Items on the next agenda include:

- a) Infrastructure Program (IP) Project Presentations
- b) Technical Resource Program (TRP) Presentations
- c) Workforce Development presentation by Jolene Guerrero, Assistant Deputy Director at LA County Public Works

9) Adjournment

Chair Hudson thanked Committee Members and the public for their attendance and participation and adjourned the meeting.

UPPER SAN GABRIEL RIVER WASC MEETING - DECEMBER 4, 2025

		Quorum Present				Voting Items (see meeting minutes for additional details)
Member Type	Position	Member	Voting/ Present?	Alternate	Voting/ Present?	Approve 10/23/2025 Meeting Minutes
Agency	Los Angeles County FCD	Julian Juarez	x	Alynn Sun		y
Agency	Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District	Tom Love		Patty Cortez		
Agency	Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster	Kelly Gardner		Lauren Augino		
Agency	Sanitation Districts	Francisco Guerrero		Christopher Lapaz	x	a
Agency	Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation	Andrea Vona		Mayra Martinez Yasumura	x	y
Community Stakeholder	Valley Vista Services, Inc	Manuel D. Perez	x			y
Community Stakeholder	Urban Semillas	David Marquez	x			y
Community Stakeholder	Council for Watershed Health	Drew Ready	x	Jason Casanova		y
Community Stakeholder	Charter Oak Unified School District	Jeanette Flores				
Community Stakeholder						
Municipal Members	Duarte/Bradbury	Stephanie Sandoval		Kevin Kearney		
Municipal Members	Diamond Bar	Nicholas Delgado	x			y
Municipal Members	Glendora / Arcadia	Stephanie Ryan	x	Briget Arndell		y
Municipal Members	Industry	Mathew Hudson	x			y
Municipal Members	Irwindale	Eddie Chan	x			y
Municipal Members	Pomona	Julie Carver	x	Lauren Marshall		y
Municipal Members	Unincorporated LA County	Rafael Piamonte	x			a
Watershed Coordinator						
Non-Voting Member	Watershed Coordinator	James Cortes	x			
Total Non-Vacant Seats		16			Yes (Y)	10
Total Voting Members Present		12			No (N)	0
Agency		3			Abstain (A)	2
Community Stakeholder		3			Total	12
Municipal Members		6				Approved

Webex Attendees
Upper San Gabriel River WASC Meeting
December 4, 2025

Claire Robinson
Craig Doberstein
Daniella Andrade
Daria Antonova | LACDPW
Donna Tran
Drew Ready (CWH)
Dylan Ahearn (Herrera)

Eileen Alduenda (CWH)
Emily Ng (Regional Coordination)
Jenny Chau
Joshua Nelson
Kaitie Evers
Lauren N Marshall
Leslie Martinez - LACPW

Liana U Poghosyan
Manuel Gonzalez
skuteckilc@cdmsmith.com
Sofia Cardenas
Sophia Catalan (Consultant)
USGR WASC Host

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 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization		Signature
Alynn Sun	FCD	Alternate	
Andrea Vona	Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation	Primary	
Briget Arndell	Arcadia	Alternate	
Christopher Lapaz	Sanitation Districts	Alternate	<i>[Signature]</i>
David Marquez	California Consulting, INC	Alternate	<i>[Signature]</i>
Drew Ready	Council for Watershed Health	Primary	
Eddie Chan	Irwindale	Primary	<i>[Signature]</i>
Francisco Guerrero	Sanitation Districts	Primary	
James Cortes	Day One	WC	<i>[Signature]</i>
Jason Casanova	Council for Watershed Health	Alternate	
Jeanette Flores	Charter Oak Unified School District	Primary	
Julian Juarez	FCD	Primary	<i>[Signature]</i>
Julie Carver	Pomona	Primary	<i>[Signature]</i>
Kelly Gardner	Main San Gabriel Basin	Primary	
Kevin Kearney	Bradbury	Alternate	

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 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization		Signature
Lauren Augino	Main San Gabriel Basin	Alternate	
Lauren Marshall	San Dimas	Alternate	
Manuel D. Perez	Valley Vista Services, Inc.	Primary	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>
Mathew Hudson	Industry	Primary	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>
Mayra Martinez Yasumura	Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation	Alternate	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>
Nicholas Delgado	City of Diamond Bar	Primary	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>
Patty Cortez	Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District	Alternate	
Rafael Piamonte	Los Angeles County	Alternate	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>
Stephanie Ryan	Glendora	Primary	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>
Stephanie Sandoval	Duarte	Primary	
Tom Love	Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District	Primary	

