

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



Thursday, January 22, 2026
1:30pm – 4:30pm
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)
Tom Love, Upper San Gabriel District (Agency), Vice-Chair
*Lauren Augino, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster (Agency)
*Christopher Lapaz, Los Angeles County Sanitation District (Agency)
Andrea Vona, Los Angeles County Parks & Recreation (Agency)
David Marquez, Urban Semillas (Community)
Drew Ready, Council for Watershed Health (Community)
Stephanie Sandoval, Duarte (Municipal)
Stephanie Sandoval, Duarte (Municipal)
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 Not Present:

Manuel D. Perez, Valley Vista Services, Inc (Community)
Jeanette Flores, Charter Oak Unified School District (Community)

*Committee Member Alternate

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

1) Welcome and Introductions

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

Chair Hudson provided a reminder that per Article V, Section C of the WASC Operating Guidelines, absence from more than three meetings in one year will be considered a failure to attend meetings and will make a WASC Member eligible for removal.

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 4, 2025

Public Works staff presented the meeting minutes from December 4, 2025. Member Drew Ready motioned to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Member Julie Carver. The WASC voted to approve the meeting minutes with 11 votes in favor, 2 votes in abstention, 0 votes opposed, and 1 absent at the time of voting.

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3) Committee Member and Program Updates

Vice-Chair Tom Love introduced Katherine Vasquez, who will serve as a Committee Member Alternate for Vice-Chair Love in the future.

Public Works staff provided updates, noting:

- Public Works staff conducted completeness checks of all Project Applications in the Call for Projects. The Scoring Committee met six times between September and December 2025 to score Infrastructure Program (IP) projects. Five out of six IP projects that applied to the USGR WASC scored above the threshold score and were sent to the WASC for consideration in the FY26-27 Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP).
- The deadline to submit a Project Modification Request (PMR) for consideration in the FY26-27 SIP was October 31, 2025. Public Works staff is in the process of reviewing submitted PMRs. Program-wide, 31 modification requests were submitted, 6 of which were determined to be not needed, 17 of which were determined to be consistent, and 8 were determined to be inconsistent. USGR did not receive any PMRs for this fiscal year.
- Mid-year reports for Project and Scientific Study (SS) developers are due on February 15.
- As of January 22, eight Watershed Coordinator contracts have been signed and commenced on January 1. The remaining four contracts are pending execution. Of these, two selections have been finalized, and two remain under County Counsel's review.
- The Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) met on January 14 and approved the Draft Biennial Progress Report for a 30-day Public Comment Period. The Draft Biennial Progress Report can be found on the Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program Adaptive Management webpage.

Ryanna Fossum (Stantec, Regional Coordination) provided an update introducing the SIP Deliberation Workbooks. Workbooks include overviews of submitted IP, SS, and Technical Resources Program (TRP) applications and note-taking pages intended to help Committee Members during SIP deliberation. Workbooks were distributed to Committee Members.

4) Watershed Coordinator Updates

Watershed Coordinator James Cortes shared a summary of recent Watershed Coordinator outreach and working group participation activities, Community Strengths and Needs Assessment (CSNA) results, and community feedback. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Upon inquiry, Watershed Coordinator Cortes clarified that sites for the Identifying Best Practices for Maintaining Stormwater Drywell Capacity SS have been selected, and that Watershed Coordinator Cortes helped select those sites.

5) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

There were no ex-parte communication disclosures.

6) Presentations and Discussion Items

a) Workforce Development Update Presentation by LA County Public Works

Jolene Guerrero, Deputy Director for Water Resources for Public Works shared a presentation on SCW Program Workforce Development. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Upon inquiry, Deputy Director Guerrero clarified that Public Works is working with the County Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) to provide metrics and tracking to inform placements, ensure direct contribution to stormwater projects, and reduce reliance on existing programs.

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b) Technical Resources Program (TRP) Presentations ([SCW Portal](#))

i. Lyle Center for Regenerative Studies Watershed Restoration and Stormwater Management Presentation by California Polytechnic State University, Pomona

Andrew Wilcox (California State Polytechnic University, Pomona) presented the Lyle Center for Regenerative Studies Watershed Restoration and Stormwater Management TRP. The TRP would transform the Lyle Center at California Polytechnic State University, Pomona's (Cal Poly Pomona) campus grounds and facilities for habitat restoration and nature-based stormwater management, along with public education and community engagement. Full presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Upon inquiry, Wilcox confirmed that onsite parking requires paid permits and that the TRP site is not easily accessible from parking areas. Wilcox commented that during special events, parking costs are waived and public shuttles are available.

Upon comment, Wilcox agreed with the Committee's expression of excitement that water education is becoming a larger part of the Lyle Center and commented that the Civil Engineering and Hydrogeology programs at Cal Poly Pomona want to get more involved.

Upon inquiry, Wilcox expressed hope that the Technical Assistance Team would be able to assist with investigating the possibility of accepting and infiltrating offsite stormwater as part of the Project. Wilcox expressed hope that the TRP will be able to provide significant outreach and educational benefits. Member Ready noted that there are not many public stormwater education centers in the eastern part of the County and commented that this TRP would fill that gap.

Watershed Coordinator Cortes commented that the expansion and restoration of existing constructed wetlands is an important part of this TRP.

ii. Royal Oak Middle School Greening and Forestry Plan Presentation by Covina, Charter Oak Unified School District

Daniella Andrade (City of Covina) and Robert Lind (Charter Oak Unified School District) presented the Royal Oak Middle School Greening and Forestry Plan TRP. The TRP's objectives are to increase public access to recreation, enhance educational environments in a manner that mitigate climate change, and develop the school property to improve education, climate adaptation, biodiversity, and public access. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Upon comment, Lind shared that the grading of the sports fields on campus is poor, which causes pooling during rain and affects the playability of the fields. Lind clarified that only 10-15% of the field area is used by the school's Physical Education programs, and the majority of the field use comes from the community. Upon inquiry, Lind shared that the School District is open to partnership with the community in any measure, and noted significant opportunity to capture stormwater flow from surrounding higher elevation areas. Upon inquiry, Andrade clarified that there is currently a Memorandum of Understanding in place between the City of Covina and the Charter Oak Unified School District, but that the parties involved plan to enact a Joint Use Agreement. Lind commented that part of the community outreach for this TRP involved the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) and community baseball. Upon inquiry, Lind clarified that during school hours, the track is available for use by the community, but spaces close to school activities are not. Lind stated that the TRP plans to install fences separating these areas. Upon inquiry, Andrade clarified that 11,000 square feet of hardscape will be removed as a part of this TRP, but that parking areas will be left unchanged due to future plans to install solar there. Upon inquiry, Lind noted that public restrooms are available onsite.

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Watershed Coordinator Cortes commented that this is an important space, as this area lacks official parks. Multiple Committee Members commended the TRP team on the overall proposal and community outreach.

Jaime Yamashita (landscape architect consultant) provided insight on an opportunity to bring offsite water from Badillo St. to the site and clarified the opportunity for new fenced areas.

c) Infrastructure Program (IP) Presentations ([SCW Portal](#))

i. Arrow Highway Beautification and Stormwater Capture Project Presentation by City of Irwindale

Merrill Taylor (Craftwater) presented the Arrow Highway Beautification and Stormwater Capture Project on behalf of the City of Irwindale. The proposed Project includes regional stormwater capture at Arrow Highway and Azusa Canyon Road, along with stormwater planters and greening improvements along Arrow Highway between Maine Avenue and Heintz Street. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Upon inquiry, Taylor clarified that two Scoring points came from the Community Support category, and no points came from the Leveraged Funding category. Upon inquiry, Taylor clarified that there is ample space within the existing right of way (ROW) for the Project and that ROW acquisition is not planned at this time.

Member Eddie Chan shared that the City decided to focus on the City ROW to avoid the difficult easement process with Los Angeles County Flood Control District and keep the Project feasible.

Upon inquiry, Taylor shared that traffic slowing was not a main goal of this Project but can be considered at later design phases. Upon inquiry, Taylor clarified that the walkway would run adjacent to the fence with a planted bioretention area separating the highway and the walkway.

ii. San Jose Creek Greenway Project Presentation by City of Industry

Merrill Taylor (Craftwater) and Joshua Nelson (City of Industry) presented the San Jose Creek Greenway Project. The proposed Project will span 10 miles along San Jose Creek, adding a bike path, six green improvements, and Low Impact Development (LID) practices and Best Management Practices (BMPs) at key intersections. Full presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Upon inquiry, Taylor clarified that the 30 acres of proposed green space are within LACFCD ROW and is not currently accessible to the public, but that the idea is to make this area accessible. Upon inquiry, Taylor clarified that the proposed Arenth Ave Box Culvert will be able to capture approximately 20% of the 85th percentile storm volume. Upon inquiry, Taylor stated that sewer owners have not yet been contacted to determine sewer capacity for potential discharge connections. Taylor clarified that without connection to sewers, the Project is still feasible as most of the treatment comes from filter systems. When asked why sewer owners have not already been contacted, Taylor cited the large sewer capacity study costs which would be hard to endure at the front end of the Project. Upon inquiry, Taylor clarified that the feasibility study will provide a breakdown of what portion of the total cost comes from the bikeway portion of the Project as opposed to the green infrastructure portion of the Project.

Upon comment, Taylor agreed that 26 new trees in a 10-mile stretch is not a large amount and will not provide much shading to reduce the heat island effect. Taylor clarified that this number was a preliminary look before landscape architects were involved in the Project; Taylor expressed hope that more trees will be included as the design progresses. Nelson commented that existing trees in the area provide shade and can be included as a part of the shading calculations; Nelson expressed openness to putting additional new trees in the public ROW.

7) Public Comment Period

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John Mendoza (resident, City of Pomona) commented and expressed hope that the community will be engaged in developing the Workforce Development Programs. Mendoza asked for clarification whether the 10% of the tax revenue going toward workforce development will be a one-time or recurring investment. Mendoza also commended the SCW Program for moving forward with the Ganesha Park Project.

8) Items for Next Agenda

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2026 from 1:30pm to 4:30pm at the Sanitation District of Los Angeles County. Items on the next agenda include:

- a) Infrastructure Program (IP) Project Presentations
- b) Scientific Studies Peer Review Summaries

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 - JANUARY 22, 2026

		Quorum Present				Voting Items (see meeting minutes for additional details)
Member Type	Position	Member	Voting/ Present?	Alternate	Voting/ Present?	Approve 12/4/2025 Meeting Minutes
Agency	Los Angeles County FCD	Julian Juarez	x	Alynn Sun		y
Agency	Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District	Tom Love	x	Patty Cortez		y
Agency	Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster	Kelly Gardner		Lauren Augino	x	a
Agency	Sanitation Districts	Francisco Guerrero		Christopher Lapaz	x	y
Agency	Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation	Andrea Vona	x	Mayra Martinez Yasumura		
Community Stakeholder	Valley Vista Services, Inc	Manuel D. Perez				
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	x	Kevin Kearney		a
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			y
Watershed Coordinator Non-Voting Member	Watershed Coordinator	James Cortes	x			
Total Non-Vacant Seats		16			Yes (Y)	11
Total Voting Members Present		14			No (N)	0
Agency		5			Abstain (A)	2
Community Stakeholder		2			Total	13
Municipal Members		7				Approved

Webex Attendees
Upper San Gabriel River WASC Meeting
January 22, 2026

Anthony Ortega Pomona
Aric M
Call-in User_1
Christopher Sidor
Daria Antonova | LACDPW
David
Don Nguyen

Grant Garcia
Hans Tremmel - Brown and Caldwell
JCramsie
Jake Martinez
Jenny Chau
Jolene Guerrero - Deputy Director, LACPW
Joshua Montion

Kara Plourde
Kristina
Lauren N Marshall
Leslie Martinez - LACPW
Liana U Poghosyan
Linet Khechatoorian
Manuel Gonzalez

Mark Hall GLACVCD
Mayra Cabrera - LACPW
Ryanna Fossum (Regional Coordination)
Taylor Paez
USGR AV
USGR WASC
Wendy

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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	<i>Andrea Vona</i>
Briget Arndell	Arcadia	Alternate	
Christopher Lapaz	Sanitation Districts	Alternate	<i>Chris Lapaz</i>
David Marquez	California Consulting, INC	Alternate	
Drew Ready	Council for Watershed Health	Primary	
Eddie Chan	Irwindale	Primary	<i>Eddie Chan</i>
Francisco Guerrero	Sanitation Districts	Primary	
James Cortes	Day One	WC	
Jason Casanova	Council for Watershed Health	Alternate	
Jeanette Flores	Charter Oak Unified School District	Primary	
Julian Juarez	FCD	Primary	<i>Julian Juarez</i>
Julie Carver	Pomona	Primary	<i>Julie Carver</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	<i>Lauren Augino</i>
Lauren Marshall	San Dimas	Alternate	
Manuel D. Perez	Valley Vista Services, Inc.	Primary	
Mathew Hudson	Industry	Primary	<i>Mathew Hudson</i>
Mayra Martinez Yasumura	Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation	Alternate	
Nicholas Delgado	City of Diamond Bar	Primary	<i>Nicholas Delgado</i>
Patty Cortez	Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District	Alternate	
Rafael Piamonte	Los Angeles County	Alternate	<i>Rafael Piamonte</i>
Stephanie Ryan	Glendora	Primary	<i>Stephanie Ryan</i>
Stephanie Sandoval	Duarte	Primary	
Tom Love	Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District	Primary	
Katherine Vazquez			
Katherine Vazquez	UPPER SGV MWD		<i>Katherine Vazquez</i>

