



Public Comment Form

Name:* Dana Earl Organization*: Natural History Museum
Email*: dearl@nhm.org Phone*: 2137633315
Meeting: March 3, 2026 Date: 2/27/2026

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. All public comments will become part of the official record.

Please complete this form and email to 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

NHMLAC would like you to be aware that, after our application was submitted, we held an event for key project supporters on January 22, 2026 to announce that a major gift to Reimagine La Brea Tar Pits has been received, the largest in the museum's history. Made possible by the Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Oschin Family Foundation, the gift will create the Samuel Oschin Global Center for Ice Age Research, and puts our campaign at \$131 million raised, a milestone that positions the project to break ground by fall 2026. Speakers at the event included other major supporters of the project: L.A. County Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot, and California State Senator Ben Allen. Letters of support from Mitchell and Allen as well as from Assemblymember Isaac Bryan are included here as attachments.

Our team also held an additional community event at La Brea Tar Pits on January 29, 2026. The purpose was to welcome in the community to learn more about the project and thank them for their participation and input. Here are a few of the highlights:

- 61 attendees (48 adults and 13 children) from neighboring homes and businesses toured the park and museum
- LBTP scientists presented a number of specimens and answered questions
- Free admission was provided to attendees along with a LBTP tote bag and pin
- Renderings of the project were presented on easels throughout the museum, with a URL to learn more about the project



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 W. Temple Street, Ste. 866, Los Angeles, California 90012
Phone: 213-974-2222 | Fax: 213-680-3283

HOLLY J. MITCHELL
SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT

February 3, 2026

Ms. Stephanie Gebhardt Rath
Ms. Vanessa Boudreau
Safe Clean Water Program
900 S. Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803

Re: Letter of Support - Reimagining La Brea Tar Pits: An Investment in Community, Green Space, and Water Quality Enhancement

Dear Ms. Gebhardt Rath and Ms. Boudreau:

I write to express my support for the *Reimagining La Brea Tar Pits* (Tar Pits) project submitted by the Natural History Museum (NHM) of Los Angeles County (County) to the Safe Clean Water Program's call for projects for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

NHM has been working for many years to fundamentally change the way its museums engage with the County's diverse communities. Rather than rely on the traditional, inward-facing model of museums, NHM is transforming its facilities into inclusive spaces that enable visitors to engage with science in a way that is relevant to them. The transformation of the Tar Pits is the next phase of NHM's efforts to more intentionally be a museum of, by, and for the County.

We are reminded by record heat waves, atmospheric rivers, droughts, and fires that a changing planet exacerbates health and socioeconomic inequities, and our youngest Angelenos are among those who have the most at stake. The 50,000 years of history being studied and unearthed at the Tar Pits is not purely academic in its value; it holds the science that all Angelenos – not just scientists – can use to make their communities climate resilient. The project's innovative designs for public spaces, new educational facilities, and immersive exhibits prioritize world-class learning opportunities so the Tar Pits can be a valuable public asset for all Angelenos.

My office has partnered with the NHM in a variety of areas - including youth development activities, educational outreach events, and an event on racial justice. These programs have helped introduce many of my constituents to the natural sciences and helped them access cultural opportunities, fostering a deeper connection to the community and promoting ESTEAM education among historically underrepresented populations.

Ms. Stephanie Gebhardt Rath & Ms. Vanessa Boudreau

February 3, 2026

Page 2

Our public partners are investing in the infrastructure that will substantially enhance the accessibility of the Tar Pits. The soon-to-be-opened Metro D-Line station will be just steps away from the Tar Pits. In addition, fare-free options for most K-14 students will allow young people to get to the Tar Pits in an affordable way. The new Tar Pits will also include a streamlined facility for visiting schools, making it possible for many more students to visit with their classes each school year.

Investing in the modernization of the Tar Pits will help us advance our shared missions while deepening the appeal of this scientifically critical geologic site. In addition to the cutting-edge features of the museum and sustainable and water-wise landscaping, community event spaces will provide accessible venues for performances, workshops, and cultural festivals, enriching Los Angeles's cultural landscape.

A revitalized Tar Pits will be a true public square in the heart of Los Angeles, welcoming hundreds of thousands of visitors to learn, discover, enjoy and interact with the past, future, and each other.

I hope that you and your agency will support this project. If you have questions, please contact my Senior Deputy for Arts, Chris Ah San, at 213-974-2222 or cahsan@bos.lacounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Holly J. Mitchell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Holly J. Mitchell
Supervisor, Second District
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

(CAS:sw)

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California State Senate

SENATOR
BEN ALLEN

TWENTY-FOURTH SENATE DISTRICT



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PARALYMPICS & WORLD CUP SOCCER
CHAIR
JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS
CHAIR
JOINT COMMITTEE ON
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL CAUCUS
CO-CHAIR

February 12, 2026

Stephanie Gebhardt Rath
Vanessa Boudreau
Safe Clean Water Program
900 S. Fremont Ave
Alhambra, CA 91803

Re: Reimagining La Brea Tar Pits: An Investment in Community, Green Space, and Water Quality Enhancement

Dear Ms. Gebhardt Rath and Ms. Boudreau,

I write to express my enthusiastic support for the *Reimagining La Brea Tar Pits* project submitted by the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County to the Safe Clean Water Program's call for projects for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

The project's innovative designs for public spaces, new educational facilities, and immersive exhibits will create a comprehensive new platform for learning and leisure that will serve a broad local, national, and global audience.

In my role as a California State Senator, my office has partnered with the Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County to introduce my constituents to the wonders of the natural and cultural world, fostering a deeper connection to the Los Angeles community, and promoting STEM education among underserved populations.

Investing in the modernization of the La Brea Tar Pits will help us advance our shared missions while deepening the appeal of this beloved institution. In addition to the cutting-edge features of the museum and sustainable and water-wise landscaping, community event spaces will provide accessible venues for performances, workshops, and cultural festivals, enriching Los Angeles's cultural landscape.

A revitalized La Brea Tar Pits will be a true public square in the heart of Los Angeles, welcoming hundreds of thousands of visitors to learn, discover, enjoy, and interact with our Ice Age past, present, and possible future. I urge you to lend your agency's support for the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Allen". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

BEN ALLEN
Senator, 24th District

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Assemblymember.Bryan@assembly.ca.gov
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Assembly
California Legislature



ISAAC G. BRYAN
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIFTY-FIFTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
CHAIR, NATURAL RESOURCES
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
JUDICIARY
PRIVACY AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE
CHANGE POLICIES

February 3, 2026

Stephanie Gebhardt Rath
Vanessa Boudreau
Safe Clean Water Program
900 S. Fremont Ave
Alhambra, CA 91803

Re: Reimagining La Brea Tar Pits's Application to Safe Clean Water Program

Dear Ms. Gebhardt Rath and Ms. Boudreau:

I write to express my enthusiastic support for the *Reimagining La Brea Tar Pits* project submitted by the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County to the Safe Clean Water Program's call for projects for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

The project's innovative designs for public spaces, new educational facilities, and immersive exhibits will create a comprehensive new platform for learning and leisure that will serve a broad local, national, and global audience. As the Member representing the La Brea Tar Pits, it is an honor to support this vital project so that both constituents and visitors from around the globe may experience their personal connection to this natural and cultural world first-hand, foster a deeper connection to the Los Angeles community, and promote STEM education among underserved populations.

Investing in the modernization of the La Brea Tar Pits advances our shared missions while deepening the appeal of this beloved institution. In addition to the cutting-edge features of the museum and sustainable and water-wise landscaping, community event spaces will provide accessible venues for performances, workshops, and cultural festivals, enriching Los Angeles's cultural landscape. A revitalized La Brea Tar Pits will be a true public square in the heart of Los Angeles, welcoming hundreds of thousands of visitors to learn, discover, enjoy, and interact with our Ice Age past, present, and possible future. I urge you to lend your agency's support for the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Isaac Bryan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Isaac" being more prominent than the last name "Bryan".

Assemblymember Isaac Bryan
California State Assembly, District 55



Date: 3/2/2026

To: CSMB WASC Committee Members
cc: SCWP Staff, Watershed Coordinator

From: OWLA Core Team (DayOne, Heal the Bay, LAANE, LA Waterkeeper, Nature for All, Pacoima Beautiful, The Nature Conservancy, and TreePeople)

RE: Input on Project Prioritization for SCWP SIP

Ahead of the 2026-2027 SIP Deliberation, the OurWaterLA Coalition (OWLA) has reviewed all of the infrastructure applications that passed the scoring threshold to identify which projects we believe exemplify the spirit of Measure W. The categories we consider are:

- Location (within/outside a DAC)
- Does the project address an actual need of an underserved community?
- Anti-displacement measures
- Community support and engagement
- Water quality and water supply
- Public health, community investments, and multiple benefits
- Nature-based solutions
- Green jobs
- Cost and leveraged funding

Of the applications in the Central Santa Monica Bay (CSMB) WASC, OWLA has identified the following infrastructure projects as exemplar projects and has elaborated on what elements have made these projects stand out to us. We recommend you fund these projects as possible given your budgetary constraints, while continuing to encourage additional opportunities for leveraged funding.

1. Edward Vincent Jr. Park Stormwater Improvements Project

- a. The project has **strong community support** through inclusive, bilingual outreach, workshops, surveys, and partnerships that encouraged broad participation and directly shaped the project's design
- b. The project **enhances community health and well-being** by revitalizing a dry creek in a park-poor area, creating accessible green space, and responding to local priorities with expanded habitat and recreational opportunities.
- c. The project integrates stormwater infrastructure with **native vegetation and 167 new trees** to improve runoff filtration, sequester carbon, reduce urban heat, and support wildlife habitat along newly restored creek corridors and walking paths.

2. Sky Sanctuaries: San Vicente Streetscape Plaza

- a. The project supports water quality and supply by treating diverted stormwater in bioretention cells for safe reuse, with **design refinements planned to address groundwater limitations and ensure effective environmental benefits.**

- b. The project integrates **innovative stormwater management** through 22 street trees, movable planters, and three sculptural steel canopy structures planted with native trees and shrubs, improving soil health, creating habitat, increasing permeable surfaces, and supporting environmental resilience while maintaining public space.
- c. The project enhances public health by providing a lifted oak woodland and plaza in a high-traffic, high-need area, creating a **welcoming community gathering space that addresses local priorities**.

We would also like to highlight the following infrastructure projects for elements of their projects that we really liked and hope to see more of.

- **Campus Community Connection: UCLA's Mobility, Stormwater Capture, and Greening Project** is a strong, well-quantified multi-benefit design that advances stormwater capture, groundwater recharge, urban greening, and active transportation within a dense urban setting. It earns honorable mention because, while technically robust and well-supported, questions remain about how broadly the general Westwood community beyond the UCLA-affiliated population will directly access and benefit from the improvements.
- **Reimagining La Brea Tar Pits: An Investment in Community, Green Space, and Water Quality Enhancement** is notable for centering nature-based solutions through extensive native habitat restoration, soil enhancement, and biofiltration, while meaningfully partnering with Tribal representatives to embed cultural stewardship and education into long-term water quality and green space improvements.
- **West Los Angeles College Stormwater Improvements Project** stands out for serving underserved communities while creating hands-on educational opportunities, and capturing offsite stormwater to advance water quality and supply benefits.
- **Memorial Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture** presents a strong community health investment in a high-need community by transforming an underutilized Public Works yard into expanded park space reflecting extensive community outreach.
- **Syd Kronenthal Park Stormwater Capture Project** delivers major water quality and supply benefits by capturing and treating stormwater at scale, removing significant pollutant loads, and offsetting potable irrigation demand.

Outside of our project specific recommendations, we also wanted to share some of the general patterns that appeared as we reviewed.

General Patterns:

1. **Narrative response, especially in Community Investment Benefits, was lacking** on a number of applications this round. Applicants should give thoughtful responses and try to provide as much context as possible. Strong examples are provided in projects like Ganesh Park Stormwater Capture Project and Edward Vincent Jr. Park Stormwater Improvements Project, which included multiple workshops, surveys, childcare/translation to support participation, and evidence of public feedback directly shaping project elements.
2. **Anti-displacement responses feel like a check-box**; applicant responses use similar responses and most responses do not include any specifics.

3. There are **few non-traditional applicants and non-profit partners** applying and/or participating in applications.
4. One project, Reimagining La Brea Tar Pits, created a Native American Advisory Council to co-develop their landscape plan and educational exhibits. **We would love to see more Tribal partnerships like this developed.**

As you consider what to fund in this year's SIP, OWLA strongly recommends that you approve projects that include strong remarks for water quality that:

- increase local water supply resilience
- utilize vegetated nature-based solutions,
- clearly demonstrate a strong community engagement plan and process took place,
- include a significant community investment element,
- provide benefits directly to and, as applicable, are located in a disadvantaged community, and
- promote green jobs.

We also want to be clear that just because we don't identify a project as an exemplar, does not mean that it is not a quality project. That said, we do believe it is valuable for us to highlight the projects that went above and beyond because we believe they deserve recognition.

Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations. We look forward to continuing our engagement with this committee and the watershed coordinators to ensure a better water future for the region.

Sincerely,

OurWaterLA

OurWaterLA is a diverse coalition of community leaders and organizations from across Los Angeles County united to create a strong water future for Los Angeles. Our goal is to secure clean, safe, affordable and reliable water for drinking, recreation and commerce now and for the future. We have a deep commitment to uphold the trust that voters had in us when passing this measure and that projects which achieve Safe Clean Water Program objectives of water quality, water supply, nature-based solutions and community investments are prioritized.



The Office of the External Vice President,
Graduate Students Association, University of California, Los Angeles
Jack Feng, External Vice President | vpex@gsa.asucla.ucla.edu
Kerckhoff Hall 316, 308 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90095

March 1, 2026
Safe Clean Water Program
LA County Public Works
900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra
Alhambra, California, 91803

Dear Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee Members,

On behalf of the UCLA Graduate Students Association (GSA), representing nearly 14,000 graduate and professional students, I am writing to express our strong support for the Campus Community Connection: UCLA's Mobility, Stormwater Capture, and Greening Project through the Safe Clean Water (SCW) Program (Measure W). This project exemplifies the transformative potential of multi-benefit, nature-based infrastructure, advancing SCW priorities in water quality, local water supply, community investment, and environmental stewardship.

The project directly reflects GSA's core priorities. By implementing stormwater best management practices (BMPs) such as bioswales, bioretention areas, and subsurface drywells, it improves water quality, increases local water supply, reduces flooding, and mitigates urban heat, advancing environmental sustainability. Mobility and safety improvements for pedestrians and cyclists enhance accessibility and community safety, supporting student well-being and the daily experiences of campus visitors, faculty, and staff. Native landscaping, shade trees, and bioretention areas expand greening, habitat, and biodiversity, reinforcing GSA's commitment to sustainable, accessible, walkable, and ecologically responsible campus and community spaces.

The project also embodies GSA's focus on community engagement and education. From pre-implementation briefings, social media campaigns, and public forums to post-construction stewardship programs, it actively informs and involves UCLA and Los Angeles communities in urban forestry, watershed management, and sustainability practices. Leveraging \$1,129,000 from Metro, UCLA, and Caltrans and supported by partners including the City of Los Angeles, LA Waterkeeper, Streets for All, and the North Westwood Neighborhood Council, the project demonstrates strong collaboration, community investment, and measurable impact.

For these reasons, the UCLA Graduate Students Association strongly endorses the Campus Community Connection project and urges your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jack Feng' in a cursive script.

Jack Feng
External Vice President, Graduate Students Association,
University of California, Los Angeles



KATY YAROSLAVSKY
COUNCILWOMAN, FIFTH DISTRICT

March 3, 2026

Marcela Benavides & Susie Santilena
Co-Chairs, Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee

Dear Central Santa Monica Bay WASC Co-Chairs and Members:

I write in strong support of the Campus Community Connection: UCLA's Mobility, Stormwater Capture, and Greening Project Safe Clean Water infrastructure design application. As one of the original proponents for the Safe Clean Water Program, I am enthusiastic about this rare opportunity within the Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed to deliver a large-scale multi-benefit project.

Developed with coordination between UCLA and Metro, this project combines stormwater best management practices, active transportation safety improvements, and greening along Westwood Plaza. Key elements include bioswales and bioretention areas, subsurface drywells, native plantings, bike lane and pedestrian safety improvements to improve connectivity to the future D Line Metro station, shade trees, and educational signage to the UCLA and Westwood community.

This project is requesting \$1,126,000 and has secured 50% match from Caltrans, UCLA, and Metro. Once designed and constructed the project would deliver 47 acre feet per year in local water through groundwater recharge and storage among other critical stormwater management benefits. As a member of the City's Energy & Environment Committee, the partnerships and scale in this project are exactly the kind of ambition needed for delivering on the Safe Clean Water Program.

Please reach out with any question to my deputy chief of staff, Kristen Torres Pawling (kristen.pawling@lacity.org).

Respectfully,

KATY YAROSLAVSKY
Councilwoman, Fifth District



Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Safe, Clean Water Program
Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee
Scoring Committee, Regional Oversight Committee
900 S. Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803

June 17, 2025

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR Campus Community Connection: UCLA's Mobility, Stormwater Capture, and Greening Project

Dear Scoring Committee:

Streets For All strongly supports the Campus Community Connection: UCLA's Mobility, Stormwater Capture, and Greening Project Safe Clean Water (SCW) infrastructure project application. This project meets multiple SCW program goals: improving water quality, increasing local water supply, and providing community benefits through expanded green spaces.

Developed in coordination with Metro and the City of Los Angeles, this project combines stormwater best management practices (BMPs), active transportation safety improvements, and greening along Westwood Plaza. Key elements include bioswales and bioretention areas, subsurface drywells, native plantings, bike lane and pedestrian safety improvements, shade trees, and educational signage to serve students, university staff, patients, and the broader community.

This project addresses regional sustainability priorities by managing stormwater runoff, enhancing water quality, reducing urban heat, improving connectivity to the future D Line station, and promoting public health. The project implements nature-based solutions that expand tree canopy while enhancing safety for pedestrians and cyclists. Additionally, it will engage the community through education on urban forestry, sustainability, and watershed management.

As an organization committed to creating a multimodal city, this project aligns with our priorities. We enthusiastically endorse this project and urges your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Michael Schneider', written over a white background.

Michael Schneider
Founder & CEO

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California State Senate

SENATOR
BEN ALLEN

TWENTY-FOURTH SENATE DISTRICT



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SPORTING EVENTS: OLYMPICS AND
WORLD CUP SOCCER, CHAIR
JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS, CHAIR
ENVIRONMENTAL CAUCUS, CO-CHAIR

June 30, 2025

Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Safe, Clean Water Program
Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee
Scoring Committee, Regional Oversight Committee
900 S. Fremont Ave
Alhambra, CA 91803

Dear Scoring Committee,

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the Campus Community Connection: UCLA's Mobility, Stormwater Capture, and Greening Project infrastructure project application. This project meets multiple Safe, Clean Water program goals by improving water quality, increasing local water supply, and providing community benefit through expanded green space.

Developed in coordination with Metro and the City of Los Angeles, this project addresses regional sustainability priorities by implementing best management practices for stormwater runoff and active transportation safety improvements for pedestrians and cyclists. This project also seeks to improve connectivity to the future D-Line station to advance public transportation goals for the region.

The proposed nature-based solutions along Westwood Plaza, including bioswales and bioretention areas that incorporate native plants and shade trees, will expand the tree canopy and reduce urban heat, supporting public health for university staff, students, patients, and the broader community. Additionally, it will engage the community through educational signage on urban forestry, sustainability, and watershed management.

Thank you for your consideration of this important funding request. I am confident that UCLA's Mobility, Stormwater Capture, and Greening Project aligns with California's ambitious climate action plan. Should you have any questions regarding my support, please feel free to contact my office at (310) 414-8190.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Allen".

BEN ALLEN
Senator, 24th District



Public Comment Form

Name:* Sophie Nenner Organization*: Bicycle Transit Systems
Email*: sophie.nenner@gmail.com Phone*: 310-866-3905
Meeting: Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steerir Date: 2/11/2026

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. All public comments will become part of the official record.

Please complete this form and email to 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

Dear Safe, Clean Water Program Team,

My name is Sophie Nenner, and I am a resident of Culver City (90232). I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed improvements to the Culver Boulevard median on the Del Rey side of the 405. Any improvement that enhances safety in this corridor is good for our community. These updates are not optional: they are necessary to protect the people who walk, bike, and move through this area every day.

We need to reduce injuries and deaths. The proposed design, with improved lighting, safer crossings, clearer bike/pedestrian signage, shade trees, low water landscaping, and stronger connections to nearby neighborhoods, reflects a thoughtful and community centered approach to a corridor that needs attention.

I also strongly support the project 's alignment with the Safe Clean Water Program, which adds meaningful stormwater quality improvements to a project that already advances public health, environmental goals, and mobility safety. I respectfully urge you to fund the feasibility study and help move this project forward.

These improvements have the potential to transform this corridor into a safer and welcoming space for all, especially families like mine who want to bike and walk more, but need better designed infrastructure.

Finally, I am suggesting the name " Westside Tongva Median " as a way to honor the Gabrielino – Tongva people, the original stewards of this land, and to emphasize that this project is about connecting communities and the people who move through this corridor—not about city boundaries or ownership.

Thank you for your consideration,
Sophie Nenner, Culver City, CA 90232

Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Safe, Clean Water Program
Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee
Scoring Committee, Regional Oversight Committee
900 S. Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803

March 2, 2026

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR Campus Community Connection: UCLA's Mobility, Stormwater Capture, and Greening Project

Dear Scoring Committee:

Stephen Cropper, serving as a member of the Westwood Neighborhood Council and as a graduate student in the Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences department at UCLA, strongly supports the Campus Community Connection: UCLA's Mobility, Stormwater Capture, and Greening Project Safe Clean Water (SCW) infrastructure project application. This project meets multiple SCW program goals: improving water quality, increasing local water supply, and providing community benefits through expanded green spaces.

Developed in coordination with Metro and the City of Los Angeles, this project combines stormwater best management practices (BMPs), active transportation safety improvements, and greening along Westwood Plaza. Key elements include bioswales and bioretention areas, subsurface drywells, native plantings, bike lane and pedestrian safety improvements, shade trees, and educational signage to serve students, university staff, patients, and the broader community.

This project addresses regional sustainability priorities by managing stormwater runoff, enhancing water quality, reducing urban heat, improving connectivity to the future D Line station, and promoting public health. The project implements nature-based solutions that expand tree canopy while enhancing safety for pedestrians and cyclists. Additionally, it will engage the community through education on urban forestry, sustainability, and watershed management.

As a Westwood Neighborhood Council member and a climate scientist specializing in extreme weather and urban resilience, this project aligns with our priorities:

- Neighborhood livability and public safety: Westwood Plaza already serves thousands of residents, students, and patients daily and the foot traffic there is only expected to grow with planned infrastructure investments. The proposed improvements will greatly benefit our community's health and well-being by

reducing urban heat and improve walkability, while also increasing public enjoyment of the area for our neighborhood.

- Stormwater resilience and water supply: As a climate scientist, I recognize that Southern California faces increasing precipitation variability, which means we are in for longer dry spells punctuated by more intense storms. Capturing and infiltrating stormwater locally through bioretention and drywells directly addresses this challenge, reducing flood risk in Westwood while recharging groundwater supplies that our region will increasingly depend on.

Stephen Cropper enthusiastically endorses this project and urges your support.

Respectfully,

Stephen Cropper

