



Public Comment Form

Name:* Andrew Wilcox Organization*: Cal Poly Pomona- Lyle Center
Email*: aowilcox@cpp.edu Phone*: 562-412-0112
Meeting: USGR Watershed Area Steering Committee (USGR) Date: 3/26/2026

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

The Lyle Center Watershed Restoration and Stormwater Management project at Cal Poly Pomona delivers measurable watershed benefits while directly serving the City of Pomona, a recognized Disadvantaged Community, and surrounding neighborhoods. The project advances stormwater capture, improves water quality, and strengthens climate resilience, while expanding environmental education and workforce development opportunities.

Located on the eastern edge of Los Angeles County, the Lyle Center operates as a public-facing demonstration site. It hosts K–12 field visits, hands-on watershed education, and community workshops focused on green infrastructure, water conservation, and sustainable landscape practices. These programs equip local youth and residents with practical, science-based strategies that can be applied across the region - this project is investing in long-term regional capacity building.

The project will capture and infiltrate stormwater runoff, reducing pollutant loads while supporting habitat conservation and restoration within the San Gabriel River watershed. This project supports regional water quality objectives, including support for aquatic habitat, increased biodiversity and species conservation.

Cal Poly Pomona serves a highly diverse student body, including a majority first-generation and historically underrepresented students. Recognizing this population, this project strengthens pathways into careers and fields essential to advancing regional watershed solutions. We respectfully request WASC support for full funding of this important regional project.



Public Comment Form

Name:* Muriel Fernandez Organization*: Cal Poly Pomona
Email*: murielf@cpp.edu Phone*: 2023062225
Meeting: USGR Watershed Area Steering Committee (USGR) Date: 3/26/2026

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

215 words or less - big ideas of proposal to build your letter of support on.

1. Transform the 16-acre Lyle Center into a regional model of watershed restoration and nature-based stormwater management within the Upper San Gabriel River watershed.
2. Remove or restore six aging artificial ponds to restore natural hydrology, improve ecological performance, and enhance long-term habitat value.
3. Implement nature-based infrastructure including depaving, permeable paving, rain gardens, bioswales, curb cuts, biofiltration, and rooftop rainwater capture.
4. Capture and treat runoff from approximately 5 acres (including 1.25 acres of impervious surface), managing first flush on-site and reducing discharge to San Jose Creek.
5. Direct stormwater into planted bioswales and reuse rooftop rainwater for irrigation, habitat support, and urban agriculture.
6. Restore riparian and wetland habitats, expand native tree canopy, reduce heat island effects, and support migratory and aquatic species.
7. Improve flood resilience by replacing concrete v-ditches and impermeable surfaces with infiltration-based systems.
8. Serve a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) area by reducing pollution burden, increasing accessible green space, and enhancing environmental quality without displacement risk.
9. Create publicly accessible outdoor learning environments for schools, community groups, and regional workshops.
10. Leverage Cal Poly Pomona's 30,000+ students and its role as a Hispanic-Serving Institution to advance inclusive education in sustainability, water stewardship, and regenerative design

Lyle Center for Natural History, Cal Poly Pomona

Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Restoration & Nature-Based Stormwater Management

Submitted to: dpw.lacounty.gov | Program: Safe Clean Water LA

The Gabrieleno-Tongva Nation has stewarded the Upper San Gabriel River watershed for thousands of years — managing water, fire, native plant communities, and living systems with an ecological intelligence that contemporary water policy is only beginning to recognize. The Lyle Center proposal at Cal Poly Pomona represents a rare opportunity to honor that knowledge in practice.

By restoring natural hydrology, removing aging artificial infrastructure, and returning native riparian and wetland communities to this landscape, this project begins repairing what colonization and urbanization removed. California native plants are not aesthetic choices here they are ecological infrastructure. Deep-rooted native species recharge groundwater, filter pollutants, stabilize soils, support pollinators, and cool the urban heat island in ways no engineered system can replicate at the same cost or permanence.

This project also serves a Disadvantaged Community deserving of clean water, accessible green space, and environmental quality without displacement. It positions a Hispanic-Serving Institution to lead inclusive, place-based education in regenerative design and Indigenous ecological stewardship for 30,000 students.

We urge Safe Clean Water LA to fund this project as a regional model: one that centers native ecosystems, listens to the land's own intelligence, and builds a future where water, community, and culture are restored together.

KEY PROPOSAL ELEMENTS

The following ten ideas form the foundation of this letter of support.

01	Regional Watershed Model Transform the 16-acre Lyle Center into a regional model of watershed restoration and nature-based stormwater management within the Upper San Gabriel River watershed — demonstrating at institutional scale what Indigenous land stewardship has always known: that water is managed best by restoring the ecological relationships that govern it.
02	Restore Natural Hydrology Remove or restore six aging artificial ponds to recover natural hydrology, improve ecological performance, and return long-term habitat value. Artificial water features that interrupt the land's own hydrological intelligence must give way to systems that move with it.
03	Nature-Based Infrastructure Implement a full suite of nature-based infrastructure: depaving, permeable paving, rain gardens, bioswales, curb cuts, biofiltration, and rooftop rainwater capture. These are not amenities — they are the ecological equivalent of what California native plant communities once did across this entire watershed.

04	<p>On-Site Runoff Management</p> <p>Capture and treat runoff from approximately 5 acres — including 1.25 acres of impervious surface — managing first flush on-site and reducing discharge to San Jose Creek. Every gallon kept on-site and returned to the ground is a step toward the slow water cycle that sustained this bioregion for millennia.</p>
05	<p>Stormwater Reuse</p> <p>Direct stormwater into planted bioswales and reuse rooftop rainwater for irrigation, habitat support, and urban agriculture. Native plants do not need imported water when the land is designed to hold what falls on it.</p>
06	<p>Riparian & Wetland Restoration</p> <p>Restore riparian and wetland habitats, expand native tree canopy, reduce heat island effects, and support migratory and aquatic species. The return of native willows, mulefat, and valley oak to this landscape is also the return of Tongva cultural and ecological memory.</p>
07	<p>Flood Resilience</p> <p>Replace concrete v-ditches and impermeable surfaces with infiltration-based systems to improve flood resilience. Water that is given space to move slowly does not become a flood — it becomes a resource.</p>
08	<p>Environmental Justice</p> <p>Serve a Disadvantaged Community by reducing pollution burden, increasing accessible green space, and enhancing environmental quality without displacement risk. Ecological restoration and social equity are not separate goals — they are the same goal.</p>
09	<p>Outdoor Learning Environments</p> <p>Create publicly accessible outdoor learning environments for schools, community groups, and regional workshops. The land is the classroom. California native plants, restored wetlands, and living water systems teach what no textbook can.</p>
10	<p>Inclusive Education at Scale</p> <p>Leverage Cal Poly Pomona's 30,000+ students and its role as a Hispanic-Serving Institution to advance inclusive education in sustainability, water stewardship, and regenerative design. Indigenous ecological knowledge belongs at the center of this curriculum — not at its margins.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Name: Muriel Fernandez

Title / Affiliation: Adjunct Professor, College of ENV, Department of Landscape Architecture

Organization: California State Polytechnic University

Email: murielf@cpp.edu

Date: 11March2026

Submit to: dpw.lacounty.gov | Safe Clean Water LA Public Comments



Public Comment Form

Name:* Behnam Bahr Organization*: Engineering
Email*: bbahr@cpp.edu Phone*: 909869-2440
Meeting: USGR Watershed Area Steering Committee (USGR) Date: 3/26/2026

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

The proposal for the Lyle Center is an excellent opportunity for our university and the greater Pomona area. As Associate Dean of Engineering from 2012 to 2016, I had the pleasure of fostering collaboration between the Lyle Center and engineering faculty on a variety of projects — ranging from aquaponics to solar initiatives — and was able to fund several Lyle Center students in pursuing their master's degrees through a Department of Education grant. The current proposal also presents a natural opportunity to involve the Department of Civil and Chemical Engineering, where several faculty members focus on water quality, recycling, and stormwater treatment. We have well-established labs for water quality analysis and treatment, and our faculty would be well-positioned to collaborate if such a facility were established on campus. This partnership would also strengthen their ability to secure external funding from both California state agencies and federal sources.

Currently I am the Director of the Ganpat and Manju Center for Engineering for International Collaboration and Innovation. One of our task is Environmental and sustainability which I could support a faculty to develop a video modules in modeling of these system to be avilabe to the entire community. This will be funded by the Grant from the Department of Education that I already have this year.

I strongly support the proposed activities and I am looking forward to working with the,



Public Comment Form

Name:* Dr. James J. A. Blair Organization*: Cal Poly Pomona
Email*: jblair@cpp.edu Phone*: 909-869-5085
Meeting: USGR Watershed Area Steering Committee (USG) Date: 3/26/2026

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 Colleagues:

I am writing to give my strongest support for the Lyle Center Watershed Restoration and Stormwater Management project. I am an Associate Professor in Geography and Anthropology at Cal Poly Pomona, and I teach and advise graduate students at the Lyle Center for Sustainability and Regenerative Studies. I was honored to serve previously as the Graduate Coordinator of the Masters of Science in Regenerative Studies, and I am confident that transforming the Lyle Center into a regional model of watershed restoration and nature-based stormwater management within the Upper San Gabriel River watershed would have a significant impact. The six artificial ponds on site currently are outdated and in need of restoration. Implementing a nature-based infrastructure plan, including depaving, permeable paving, rain gardens, bioswales, curb cuts, biofiltration, and rooftop rainwater capture will allow for significantly more effective capture and treatment of runoff, as well as more efficient irrigation, habitat support, and urban agriculture. Restoring the broader riparian and wetland habitats will increase the native tree canopy, reduce heat island effects, and support migratory and aquatic species that already inhabit the Center's grounds. Infiltration-based systems will also improve flood resilience. This proposal will have a major impact on Cal Poly Pomona and its surrounding Disadvantaged Communities by reducing pollution burdens, enhancing accessible green space, and improving the quality of the environment without risking displacement. It will allow the Lyle Center to continue serving as an accessible outdoor learning environment for many years to come, as a model for sustainability, water stewardship, and regenerative design. Thank you very much for your consideration.



Public Comment Form

Name:* Lorena Matos, PLA Organization*: CPP Alumna
Email*: mts_lorena@yahoo.com Phone*: (951)3150366
Meeting: USGR Watershed Area Steering Committee (USGR) Date: 3/26/2026

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

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed Lyle Center Watershed Restoration and Stormwater Management project at Cal Poly Pomona. This proposal represents a forward-looking investment in watershed health, community education, and climate-resilient infrastructure within the Upper San Gabriel River watershed.

The project appropriately prioritizes nature-based strategies such as bioswales, permeable surfaces, rain gardens, and wetland restoration. By capturing and treating stormwater on-site before it reaches Thompson Wash and San Jose Creek, the project will directly improve watershed function and reduce pollutant loading. Additionally, the restoration of riparian and wetland habitat through the redesign of aging artificial ponds will support biodiversity and enhance ecosystem services.

The project also offers significant social and educational benefits. As a living laboratory, the Lyle Center is uniquely positioned to serve as a regional demonstration site for green infrastructure, facilitating workforce training and the adoption of sustainable practices. Furthermore, the project delivers meaningful benefits to nearby disadvantaged communities by increasing access to green space and expanding educational opportunities related to water stewardship.

Overall, this proposal aligns with the goals of the Safe Clean Water Program by providing measurable water quality improvements alongside environmental and social co-benefits. I encourage the Committee to support this project and advance it through the TR Program Phase.



Public Comment Form

Name:* Richard Davis Organization*: _____
Email*: r.seelig.davis@gmail.com Phone*: _____
Meeting: _____ Date: _____

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

I have become aware of this opportunity to expand and transform the Lyle Center for Sustainability and regenerative Studies. I see this from the perspective of a trustee and volunteer at the California Botanic Garden. It is an 86 acre native plant garden associated with the Claremont Graduate University botany department, the leader in native plant seed preservation and a major force in native plant conservation

I very much see the Lyle center as an effective agent for promoting knowledge and values that support our mission. This will be greatly enhanced with the planned grants.



Public Comment Form

Name:* Laura Santos Organization*: Community
Email*: laurasantos3454@gmail.com Phone*: 626 261-9358
Meeting: Upper San Gabriel River WASC Date: 3/26/2026

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

Measure W mandates public engagement. The storm water capture project at Bassett High School was approved in 2020. Day One was hired as the watershed coordinator in charge of community engagement. It has been years, and years. Bassett is a disadvantage community with a large immigrate Spanish speaking population. You have had plenty of time to educate the community and create a model engaged disadvantaged community with exceptional water expertise. But instead of providing the mandated public engagement, you have done NOTHING!!!! This is not the first time I'm requested the mandated community engagement from this committee, from county public works, and from Day One. But absolutely nothing has been done!!! On one Earth Day some years ago public works showcased the project at an event in Walnut, an affluent community that isn't even adjacent to Bassett! What do I have to do to get the community engagement and education that supposed to be provided to Bassett???? Do I have to complaint to our County Supervisor? Or go to the Supervisor meeting to complain?



Public Comment Form

Name:* Anton van Oppen Organization*: Independent
Email*: antonvanoppen@hotmail.com Phone*: 9255941853
Meeting: USGR Watershed Area Steering Committee (USGR) Date: 3/26/2026

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

I am studying at CPP in environmental engineering, minoring in regenerative studies. Last semester I took a class in which the final project was creating a report about how the Lyle Center was managing a certain issue. Because of my background with water I chose to dig into how the center manages its storm water. I was quite critical as the current system fails its original purpose; the constructed wetland fails to capture water, with most of it flooding over the path, the pools while providing habitat for birds also host invasive toads, mosquitoes, & reeds and the main part of the Center is mostly impenetrable material... The idea I proposed to fix this was the destruction of a few of the pools and integrating them into a singular wetland area to act as a basin. The proposed plan goes beyond this idea and is a huge upgrade. The base of the plan of removing all the pools and integrating them into 2 larger wetlands is already pretty smart however this plan goes beyond that; using a path to dam the wetland is genius, as it allows for students to both get up close to experience the wetland but also helps hold water to retain moisture. Increasing habitat and allowing students to see active wetlands.



Public Comment Form

Name:* Anita Scott, City Manager Organization*: City of Pomona
Email*: Anita.Scott@pomonaca.gov Phone*: 909.620.2051
Meeting: Upper San Gabriel River WASC Date: 3/26/2026

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

The City of Pomona respectfully requests the Upper San Gabriel River (USGR) WASC to consider the Ganesha Park Stormwater Capture Project for construction funding in the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP).

This project represents the City's highest priority regional stormwater project, as it directly addresses water quality requirements specified in the Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Management Program and the NPDES MS4 Permit. Located within Ganesha Park, the project will capture and treat runoff from the Fairplex Drain from the adjacent San Jose Creek, resulting in improved water quality for both the San Jose Creek and the downstream San Gabriel River.

The City has undertaken extensive community outreach and engagement to develop community-driven park design enhancements that reflect community priorities and has garnered strong local support. In addition to its water quality benefits, the project will provide meaningful enhancements to Ganesha Park, serving residents from Pomona's Disadvantaged Communities and delivering equitable recreational and environmental benefits.

The City has also partnered with Caltrans to secure \$6.25 Million in construction funding through stormwater benefits-sharing efforts. This contribution represents a significant 25% local match toward the overall construction cost, demonstrating the City's strong commitment to project implementation.

Therefore, the City respectfully urges that the USGR WASC to support the Ganesha Park Stormwater Capture Project in the FY 2026-27 SIP. Thank you to the Chair, Vice Chair, and all the dedicated WASC members for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Please see attached comment.

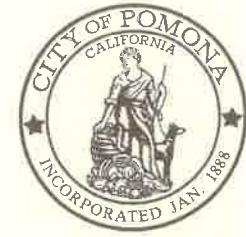
THE CITY OF POMONA

Office of the City Manager

DR. ANITA D. SCOTT
City Manager

March 25, 2026

Matt Frary, PE, Assistant Deputy Director
Safe Clean Water Program
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Ave
Alhambra, CA 91803



RE: Public Comment: USGR March 26, 2026

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and USGR WASC Members:

The City of Pomona respectfully requests the Upper San Gabriel River (USGR) WASC to consider the Ganesha Park Stormwater Capture Project for construction funding in the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP).

This project represents the City's highest priority regional stormwater project, as it directly addresses water quality requirements specified in the Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Management Program and the NPDES MS4 Permit. Located within Ganesha Park, the project will capture and treat runoff from the Fairplex Drain from the adjacent San Jose Creek, resulting in improved water quality for both the San Jose Creek and the downstream San Gabriel River.

The City has undertaken extensive community outreach and engagement to develop community-driven park design enhancements that reflect community priorities and has garnered strong local support. In addition to its water quality benefits, the project will provide meaningful enhancements to Ganesha Park, serving residents from Pomona's Disadvantaged Communities and delivering equitable recreational and environmental benefits.

The City has also partnered with Caltrans to secure \$6.25 Million in construction funding through stormwater benefits-sharing efforts. This contribution represents a significant 25% local match toward the overall construction cost, demonstrating the City's strong commitment to project implementation.

Therefore, the City respectfully urges that the USGR WASC to support the Ganesha Park Stormwater Capture Project in the FY 2026-27 SIP. Thank you to the Chair, Vice Chair, and all the dedicated WASC members for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anita Scott", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Anita Scott



Public Comment Form

Name:* Tim Sandoval, Mayor Organization*: City of Pomona
Email*: Tim.Sandoval@pomonaca.gov Phone*: 909.620.2051
Meeting: Upper San Gabriel River WASC Date: 3/26/2026

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

As the Mayor for the City of Pomona, I respectfully request the Upper San Gabriel River (USGR) WASC to support the Ganesha Park Stormwater Capture Project for construction funding in the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP).

This project is a high priority project for the City as it advances compliance with water quality regulations through the capture and treatment of stormwater runoff from the Fairplex Drain, ultimately improving water quality for the San Jose Creek and the San Gabriel River downstream. The City has also invested significant time and effort to ensure that the park's design is community driven design and reflective of local priorities, while providing an opportunity to implement much needed enhancements to this important community asset.

As Mayor and on behalf of the City of Pomona and its residents, I encourage the USGR WASC to support the Ganesha Park Stormwater Project in the 2026-27 SIP.

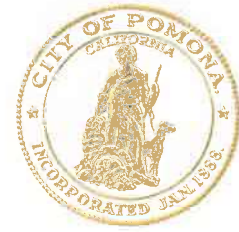
Thank you to the Chair, Vice Chair, and USGR WASC members for your time and thoughtful consideration of our project.

Please see attached comment.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

TIM SANDOVAL
Mayor

March 25, 2026



Matt Frary, PE, Assistant Deputy Director
Safe Clean Water Program
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803

RE: Public Comment: USGR March 26, 2026

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and USGR WASC members:

As the Mayor for the City of Pomona, I respectfully request the Upper San Gabriel River (USGR) WASC to support the Ganesha Park Stormwater Capture Project for construction funding in the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP).

This project is a high priority project for the City as it advances compliance with water quality regulations through the capture and treatment of stormwater runoff from the Fairplex Drain, ultimately improving water quality for the San Jose Creek and the San Gabriel River downstream. The City has also invested significant time and effort to ensure that the park's design is community-driven design and reflective of local priorities, while providing an opportunity to implement much needed enhancements to this important community asset.

As Mayor and on behalf of the City of Pomona and its residents, I encourage the USGR WASC to support the Ganesha Park Stormwater Project in the 2026-27 SIP.

Thank you to the Chair, Vice Chair, and USGR WASC members for your time and thoughtful consideration of our project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Sandoval", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Tim Sandoval



Public Comment Form

Name:* Lindsey Stuvick Organization*: N/A
Email*: LRAESTUVICK@GMAIL.COM Phone*: 909-260-5538
Meeting: USGR Watershed Area Steering Committee (USGR) Date: 3/26/2026

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

My name is Lindsey Stuvick, and I am a Sustainable Resources Officer at Moulton Niguel Water District with over fifteen years of experience in water efficiency, water resources, sustainability, and energy. I hold completed coursework in the Master's Program in Regenerative Studies program at Cal Poly Pomona, and worked for two years as an assistant and tour guide at the Lyle Center for Sustainability and Regenerative Studies.

Through my academic and professional experience, I am deeply familiar with the Lyle Center's mission, facilities, and long-standing role as a living laboratory for regenerative design, education, and community engagement. I strongly support the proposed Watershed Restoration and Stormwater Management initiative, which advances nature-based stormwater solutions, habitat restoration, and integrated public education.

As climate change, stormwater regulations, and water quality challenges continue to intensify, there is a critical need for accessible demonstration sites that translate best practices into real world applications. The Lyle Center's proposed project to integrate green stormwater infrastructure, restored wetlands, public access, and educational programming will serve as a regional model for municipalities, students, and the broader community.

Importantly, the project will expand access to sustainability education for surrounding disadvantaged communities and Cal Poly Pomona's diverse student population. I fully support this initiative and believe it represents a meaningful investment in environmental resilience, equity, and public education. I am happy to be contacted for further information or to make additional statements in support of this important project.



Public Comment Form

Name:* Annelisa Moe Organization*: OurWaterLA
Email*: amoe@healthebay.org Phone*: 310-451-1500
Meeting: USGR WASC Date: 3/26/2026

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

See attached comment letter.



Date: 24 March 2026

To: Upper San Gabriel River 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) 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 considered are:

- Location (within/outside a DAC)
- 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 USGR watershed, 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 budget.

Ganesha Park Stormwater Capture Project

This project located in Pomona will advance the water quality and water supply needs of the region and it will do so while creating significant improvements to a highly used park. OWLA members were impressed with the amount of community engagement and support and we believe this project will benefit DAC communities near the park.

We would also like to highlight the following project for elements we really liked and hope to see more of.

San Jose Creek Greenway Project.

This project will directly contribute to active transportation in the region while advancing water quality and water supply needs. We see the project as a step forward in advancing the SGV Greenway Network Plan. Advancing projects along waterways in the USGR has been previously identified by this WASC as a priority and this application begins that effort.

Finally, OWLA recommends moving forward with:

Climate Resistance and Resiliency: An Adaptive Framework for Stormwater Risk Management.

This study will assess how climate-related natural disasters affect stormwater systems, water quality, water supply, and infrastructure. The study will provide actionable strategies to help Los Angeles communities prepare for and respond to increasing climate risks.

Outside of our project specific recommendations, we also wanted to share some of the general patterns among all FY26-27 SCWP submissions 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 Ganesha 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

About OurWaterLA. OWLA 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.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Mackenzie Bolger Organization*: San Gabriel Valley Council of Governm
Email*: mbolger@sgvcog.org Phone*: 626-214-1316
Meeting: Upper San Gabriel River WASC Meeting Date: 3/26/2026

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

We are happy to share that the Climate Resistance and Resiliency: An Adaptive Framework for Stormwater Risk Management Scientific Study was recently supported by the Upper LA River WASC and included in their recommend SIP. This study directly advances the goals of the Safe, Clean Water Program aimed at protecting both stormwater quality and local water supply under the kinds of disaster conditions our region is increasingly facing. It will characterize real, local risks and identify strategies to ensure that water quality goals continue to progress even during the extreme events that we know are becoming more frequent and more severe. By funding this study, we can better safeguard our stormwater system through understanding vulnerabilities before they fail, and equipping agencies with practical, science-based tools to maintain services when our communities need them most. You are investing in a proactive, coordinated approach that ensures this region is prepared, not just to respond, but to withstand and recover to climate-driven disasters in a way that protects public health and strengthens regional resilience.

We urge you to join the Upper LA River WASC in supporting this study and helping ensure that our region is ready to meet the challenges of climate change with resilience and foresight.