

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



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Tuesday, February 10, 2026  
10:00am – 12:30pm  
Lakewood City Hall Executive Board Room  
5000 Clark Ave  
Lakewood, CA 90712  
WebEx Meeting

## Committee Members Present

CJ Caluag, Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Agency)  
Jenn Swart, Water Replenishment District (Agency)  
\*Alysha Chan, Los Angeles County Sanitation District (Agency)  
Danielle Lewis, Long Beach Parks and Recreation (Agency)  
Dan Knapp, Conservation Corps of Long Beach (Community), Co-Chair  
Adam Galia, Resident (Community)  
\*Ian Patton, Long Beach Coalition for a Safe Environment (Community)  
Ariel Pe, Business (Community)  
Dan Mueller, Downey (Municipal), Co-Chair  
Konya Vivanti, Lakewood (Municipal)  
Wataru Kumagai, Long Beach (Municipal)  
Noe Negrete, Pico Rivera/Bellflower (Municipal), Vice-Chair  
Joseph Venzon, Unincorporated Los Angeles County (Municipal)  
Leon Vasquez, Whittier/La Mirada (Municipal)  
\*Jim Cluxton, OhanaVets (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

## Committee Members Not Present

Mark Stanley, Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (Community)  
Chris Kuebert, Cerritos (Municipal)

\*Committee Member Alternate

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

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## **1) Welcome and Introductions**

Dan Knapp, Co-Chair of the Lower San Gabriel River (LSGR) Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC), welcomed Committee Members and called the meeting to order. Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works) staff conducted a brief tutorial on WebEx and facilitated the roll call of Committee Members. Public Works staff introduced themselves and established a quorum. Co-Chair Knapp shared a reminder of the attendance policy with WASC Members.

## **2) Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 9, 2025**

Public Works staff presented the meeting minutes from December 9, 2025. Member Konya Vivanti motioned to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Member Ariel Pe. The WASC voted to approve the October 14, 2025 meeting minutes with 10 votes in favor, 0 opposed, and 4 in abstention (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

## **3) Committee Member and Program Updates**

Member Jenn Swart introduced themselves as the new Member representing the Water Replenishment District.

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Public Works staff deferred administrative updates for the SCW Program.

The Watershed Planning Team provided an update, noting:

- The final release of the Initial Watershed Plans and the companion Online Planning Tool is set for the end of February 2026.
- Since the launch of the Community Strengths & Needs Assessment (CSNA) Survey, 1,300 new survey responses have been collected. 56 responses have been collected for the LSGR WASC.
- A Story Map for the CSNA Dashboard has been published to guide users through navigating and utilizing the CSNA Dashboard to visualize feedback from their community and identify opportunities and priorities.

The Watershed Planning Team can be reached at [watershedplanning@pw.lacounty.gov](mailto:watershedplanning@pw.lacounty.gov).

#### **4) Watershed Coordinator Updates**

Watershed Coordinator Jim Cluxton presented an overview of current and upcoming activities, noting that OhanaVets continues to participate in the Working Groups organized by Watershed Coordinators. Watershed Coordinator Cluxton explained that the Working Groups meet monthly and focus on different topics, including Tribal Allyship, Schools & Stormwater, and Post-Fire work.

Watershed Coordinator Cluxton shared that OhanaVets is operating on an interim basis, noting that ten days' notice would be provided before the WASC transitions to the newly selected Primary Watershed Coordinator, Dudek. Watershed Coordinator Cluxton emphasized that OhanaVets remains committed to the role and spoke with Ryanna Fossum (Stantec, Regional Coordination) about a transition checklist.

Member Adam Galia inquired about the transition timeline. Public Works staff explained that ten Watershed Coordinator contracts have been finalized program-wide and that the transition timeline estimate cannot be made but an update would be provided as soon as available.

Upon inquiry, Watershed Coordinator Cluxton explained that the new Watershed Coordinator will be able to join the Working Groups and that the meetings are held virtually and are not public.

#### **5) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure**

There were no ex parte communication disclosures.

#### **6) Presentations and Discussion Items**

##### **a) Regional Program FY24-25 Annual Report Summary**

Melanie Rivera (HDR) presented on the Regional Program Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (FY24-25) Annual Report Summary. Presentation slides can be found on the [SCW Program website](#).

Member Noe Negrete remarked that the Hermosillo Park Project and the York Field Stormwater Capture Project were described as in construction despite a reported status of 90% design. Rivera explained that both Projects had completed design and were in permitting as of the Annual Reporting Period.

Run Chen (City of Norwalk) explained that the Hermosillo Park Project's design was in-progress at the time of the Annual Reporting Period in mid-2025. Chen noted that the Project commenced construction in December 2025 and an update will be provided in the upcoming Mid-Year Report.

Member Leon Vasquez explained that the York Field Stormwater Capture Project is not under construction but that an update will be provided shortly.

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Member Negrete requested that developers of constructed projects share lessons learned at a future meeting and emphasized the importance of comparing actualized benefits and projected benefits. Co-Chair Knapp agreed with Member Negrete's request and noted that two of the three completed Projects were funded for operations and maintenance (O&M).

Public Works staff noted that developers for projects with critical issues were invited to the WASC meeting.

Co-Chair Knapp remarked that the El Dorado Regional Project and the La Mirada Creek Park Project are both experiencing schedule delays. Member Wataru Kumagai explained that the El Dorado Regional Project is on hold due to interim discussions on cost savings. Co-Chair Knapp noted that issues with cost escalation will be more common going forward.

Member Negrete inquired if developers from the La Habra Heights Stormwater Treatment and Reuse System The Park Hacienda Road Project had been contacted and if there were any consequences for lack of reporting. Public Works staff explained that funds are considered eligible for reclamation if disbursed but not spent by a project proponent or developer after five years from the end of the fiscal year of disbursement, per the Transfer Agreement (TA). Co-Chair Knapp emphasized that the WASC has an obligation to exercise good stewardship over its funds.

Upon inquiry, Public Works staff confirmed that the La Habra Heights Stormwater Treatment and Reuse System The Park Hacienda Road Project was awarded \$705,348.

Christopher Rochfort (STAR Water Group, La Habra Heights Project developer) noted that they experienced technical difficulties when attempting to submit the FY24-25 Annual Report, and contacted the SCW Program for assistance on November 28, 2025. They were able to submit the previously overdue FY24-25 Mid-Year Report but have not done so for the Annual Report. Rochfort also explained that the City of La Habra Heights requested more information on the Project before the City Council approved the Project's transition to the contract stage. Rochfort stated that the City Attorney has the contracts, which will be submitted alongside the TA once finalized.

Upon inquiry, Public Works staff attributed most TA delays to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) delays, which is required prior to disbursement of construction funds. Public Works staff also noted that accompanying documents must be submitted each time a TA or addendum is processed.

Member Alysha Chan noted that the WASC Funding Overview Table shows the Cerritos Sports Complex Project receiving more funds to-date than funds awarded. Rivera noted that the Project developer will be contacted, as this is likely a typo.

## **b) Project Modification Requests (PMR) for WASC Discussion**

This Agenda Item was moved after Agenda Item 6d.

## **c) Scientific Studies Peer Review Summaries**

### **i. A Holistic Assessment of Trash in Watersheds (Moore Institute for Plastic Pollution Research (MIPPR))**

The Scientific Study Peer Review Summaries can be found on the [SCW Program website](#). Member Vivanti inquired how the Scientific Study (SS) would augment existing efforts, given that many cities have Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) permits and must comply with Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements.

Member Negrete requested clarification on the Project deliverables and its nexus with stormwater management.

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Andrea Amend (MIPPR, Project applicant) stated that roadside trash is a known issue, as evidenced by the implementation of practices like street sweeping and stormwater capture. Amend highlighted that MIPPR has received a letter of support from Kristina Duggan (City of Long Beach) highlighting that downstream trash levels continue to increase despite upstream trash capture devices. Amend explained that research would help illuminate the rate at which trash accumulates and how it moves, which in turn would inform BMP design.

Upon inquiry, Amend shared that the funding requested from the LSGR WASC totals \$366,000 over four years. Member Vivanti expressed the opinion that the SS would not be a good use of funds.

Member Ian Patton expressed that trash traveling downstream to Long Beach along the San Gabriel River is a significant issue.

Upon inquiry, Amend stated that the SS was proposed to all 9 WASCs.

## **ii. Regional CECs and Pollutant EMCs in Stormwater Assessment (UCLA)**

The Scientific Study Peer Review Summaries can be found on the [SCW Program website](#). Ryanna Fossum (Stantec, Regional Coordination) noted that WASC Members can ask Project applicants for response to the peer review.

Upon inquiry, Sanjay Mohanty (UCLA, Project applicant) shared that the peer review recognized the water quality and stormwater capture benefits of the Regional CECs and Pollutant EMCs in Stormwater Assessment SS, as well as the team's expertise. Mohanty acknowledged uncertainty regarding sampling sites.

Upon inquiry, Dylan Ahearn (UCLA, Project applicant) stated that \$340,569 was requested in funding from the LSGR WASC and that the SS was proposed to six WASCs, excluding three WASCs which did not have sufficient funding for the SS.

Member Negrete inquired if contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) were not being examined at present and how the SS's deliverables are intended to be used. Member Negrete remarked that the reviewers raised questions about site selection and sampling and expressed concerns about achievability. Mohanty explained that CECs are currently neither regulated nor monitored in stormwater.

Member Negrete commented that per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are generally in groundwater, not surface water. Mohanty explained that PFAS are predominantly found in surface water and that research devoted to land use type will allow source control to be performed and determine a link to groundwater.

Ahearn noted that monitoring for other contaminants can be performed if requested. Ahearn explained that sampling will occur at locations representing 70-80% of a land use type and that the resulting dataset can be used to model where CECs may be found.

Member Vivanti requested clarification on the locations of sampling sites. Ahearn highlighted that site selection will be informed by extensive research at the Study's beginning, as outlined in the proposal.

Upon inquiry, Mohanty shared that the Study will analyze wet weather flows and use monitoring stations, rather than grab samples, to minimize uncertainty.

Member Chan asked if data would be shared with the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) and how results could affect future contaminant regulations. Mohanty explained that direct contact has not been made with the Regional Board, but that widespread interest in monitoring CECs exists across multiple agencies, including Caltrans. Ahearn stated that sampling sites will be anonymized to reduce

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liability for Watershed Areas. Ahearn also noted that the SS is included in the Southern California Stormwater Monitoring Coalition's study plan.

## **d) Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) Programming Guidelines Presentation**

Fossum presented on the SIP Programming Guidelines. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Co-Chair Knapp questioned how projects are removed from a SIP if they are determined to no longer meet the goals of the SCW Program and if any Projects are removed for inactivity. Fossum explained that removal of funding is rare, but that a Project can be removed if the scope or benefits have been significantly reduced, such as a substantial reduction in BMP structures. Fossum noted that lapsed funding provisions kick in after five years of non-expended funding.

Member Danielle Lewis requested clarification on how a project can change but remain eligible by maintaining the same deliverables. Fossum noted that Project Modification Requests (PMR) would be discussed during the next Agenda Item.

Co-Chair Knapp highlighted that the LSGR WASC is seeing an increase in PMRs.

## **b) Project Modification Requests (PMR) for WASC Discussion**

Fossum presented on PMRs. Presentation slides can be found on the [SCW Program website](#).

Oliver Galang (Craftwater), speaking on behalf of the City of Bellflower, described the background and PMR for the Bellflower Simms Park Stormwater Capture Infrastructure Program (IP) Project. The PMR form can be found on the [SCW Program website](#).

Galang stated that the Project's design phase was funded in FY21-22 for \$2.14 million, with the construction phase request submitted the following year. Galang noted that the City of Bellflower has committed \$2.9 million in funding, which represents a 17.5% local match. Galang also shared that the Project's CEQA documents have been approved and a Notice of Determination (NOD) was filed in August 2023.

Galang explained that a PMR was submitted due to significant escalation in construction costs since 2020 and noted that the City of Bellflower also applied for \$4 million in Measure A grant funding, pending notification in March 2026. Galang emphasized that the Project is shovel-ready, within a disadvantaged community, and could reduce its SCW Program funding request based on receipt of Measure A funds.

Co-Chair Knapp inquired if the Project applicants should request additional funding after bidding due to a potential increase in construction costs. Galang acknowledged this possibility but noted that the estimate is based on 90% design and incorporates both a 10% contingency and 3% annual escalation rate. Galang emphasized that best practice is to release the Project to bids knowing that funds are available.

Upon inquiry, Galang explained that the Project is supported by the Los Cerritos Channel Watershed Management Group, which includes the Cities of Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Lakewood, Paramount, and Signal Hill. Galang noted that the Project area is within the City of Bellflower.

Galang shared lessons learned throughout the Project's design phase, including use of filter fabric to avoid sediment accumulation in the infiltration tank.

Member Negrete noted that the Bellflower Simms Park Stormwater Capture Project is the only Project proposed for construction by the City of Bellflower and is thus the City's highest priority.

## **7) Public Comment Period**

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Vipul Joshi (Dudek) noted that representatives from Dudek, the consultant selected as the LSGR WASC's Primary Watershed Coordinator, have been listening to WASC meetings and are looking forward to starting the role.

## **8) Voting Items**

There were no voting items.

## **9) Items for Next Agenda**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2026, from 10:00am to 12:30pm. See the [SCW Program website](#) for meeting details. Items on the next agenda include:

- a) Lower San Gabriel River Project Prioritization and Selection Discussion for Populating the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Stormwater Investment Plan

Public Works staff noted that approximately \$1.9 million in funds is available for the FY26-27 SIP and that a list of resources will be shared ahead of the upcoming meeting to assist WASC Members with deliberations.

Upon inquiry, Public Works staff explained that there is no firm deadline for assembling the SIP, although deliberations usually take place over one meeting.

Upon inquiry, Public Works staff shared that the SIP Tool would be updated soon and a demonstration of the SIP Tool will be conducted at the meeting in March.

## **10) Adjournment**

Co-Chair Knapp thanked Committee Members and the public for their attendance and participation and adjourned the meeting.

**LOWER SAN GABRIEL RIVER WASC MEETING - FEBRUARY 10, 2026**

**Quorum Present**

**Voting Items**  
(see meeting minutes for additional details)

Member Type	Position	Member	Voting/ Present?	Alternate	Voting/ Present?	Approve 12/9/2025 Meeting Minutes
Agency	Los Angeles County FCD	CJ Caluag	x	Daniel Bradbury		y
Agency	Central Basin					
Agency	Water Replenishment District	Jenn Swart	x			a
Agency	Sanitation Districts	Francisco Guerrero		Alysha Chan	x	a
Agency	City of Long Beach Parks and Recreation	Danielle Lewis	x	Todd Leland		y
Community Stakeholder	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	Dan Knapp	x	David Sall		a
Community Stakeholder	Resident	Adam Galia	x			a
Community Stakeholder	Rivers Mountains Conservancy	Mark Stanley				
Community Stakeholder	Long Beach Coalition for a Safe Environment	Gabrielle Weeks		Ian Patton	x	y
Community Stakeholder	Business	Ariel Pe	x			y
Municipal Members	Cerritos	Chris Kuebert		Sofia Taylor		
Municipal Members	Downey	Dan Mueller	x	Joe Alejandria		y
Municipal Members	Lakewood	Konya Vivanti	x	Kelli Pickler		y
Municipal Members	Long Beach	Wataru Kumagai	x	Alexa Reasoner		y
Municipal Members	Pico Rivera / Bellflower	Noe Negrete	x	Len Gorecki		y
Municipal Members	Unincorporated	Joseph Venzon	x	Fred Gonzalez		y
Municipal Members	Whittier / La Mirada	Leon Vasquez	x	Mark Rounds		y
Watershed Coordinator Non-Voting Member	Watershed Coordinator	Kekoa Anderson		Jim Cluxton	x	
<b>Total Non-Vacant Seats</b>		16			Yes (Y)	10
<b>Total Voting Members Present</b>		14			No (N)	0
Agency		4			Abstain (A)	4
Community Stakeholder		4			Total	14
Municipal Members		6				Approved

**Webex Attendees**  
**Lower San Gabriel River WASC Meeting**  
**February 10, 2026**

Alexa Reasoner	Gabrielle Weeks	Lauren Anderson	Melanie Rivera (HDR)
Andrea Amend - Moore Institute	Jenny Chau	Lisa Berman	Rafael
Andrea Dransfield	Jessica Kanarek	LSGR AV	Run Chen
Andrew Kim	Jessica Pearson	LSGR WASC Presenter	Ryanna Fossum
Christopher Rochfort	JonPaul Sarro	Marisela Velasquez	Theodore Von Bitner
David Coghiel	Jose L. Escajeda	Mark Rounds	Veronica Carrillo
Dylan Ahearn (Herrera)	Kelly Bray	Mayra Cabrera - LACPW	Vipul Joshi (Dudek)
Fred Gonzalez	Kristina	Mei-Lin Hanna (JLHA)	Win Cowger

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 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization		Signature
Adam Galia	Resident	Primary	
Alexa Reasoner	Long Beach	Alternate	
Alysha Chan	Sanitation Districts	Alternate	
Ariel Pe	Business	Primary	
Braden Yu	Central Basin	Alternate	
Chris Kuebert	Cerritos	Primary	
CJ Caluag	Los Angeles County FCD	Primary	
Dan Knapp	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	Primary	
Dan Mueller	Downey	Primary	
Daniel Bradbury	Los Angeles County FCD	Alternate	
Danielle Lewis	City of Long Beach Parks and Recreation	Primary	
David Sall	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	Alternate	
Francisco Guerrero	Sanitation Districts	Primary	
Fred Gonzalez	Unincorporated	Alternate	
Gabrielle Weeks	Long Beach Coalition for a Safe Environment	Primary	

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 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization		Signature
Ian Patton	Resident	Alternate	<i>[Signature]</i>
Jenn Swart	Water Replenishment District	Primary	<i>Jenn Swart</i>
Jim Cluxton	Watershed Coordinator	Alternate	<i>[Signature]</i>
Joseph Venzon	Unincorporated	Primary	<i>[Signature]</i>
Kekoa Anderson	Watershed Coordinator	Primary	
Kelli Pickler	Lakewood	Primary	
Konya Vivanti	Lakewood	Alternate	<i>[Signature]</i>
Len Gorecki	Bellflower	Alternate	<i>[Signature]</i>
Leon Vasquez	Whittier	Alternate	<i>[Signature]</i>
Lorena Powell	Downey	Alternate	
Madeline Chen	Central Basin	Primary	
Mark Rounds	La Mirada	Alternate	
Mark Stanley	Rivers Mountains Conservancy	Primary	
Noe Negrete	Pico Rivera	Primary	<i>[Signature]</i>
Sofia Taylor	Cerritos	Alternate	

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Member Name	Municipality/ Organization		Signature
Todd Leland	City of Long Beach Parks and Recreation	Alternate	
Wataru Kumagai	Long Beach	Primary	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>

Joseph Alejandria      Downey      Alternate      Joseph Alljantini

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 PUBLIC SIGN-IN



First Name	Last Name	Municipality/Organization	Email Address
<del>NOE NEGRETE</del>		<del>PICO RIVERA</del>	<del>nnegrete@pico-rivera.org</del>
OLIVER	GALANG	CRAFTWATER	oliver.galang@craftwater.com
DAN	KNAPP	CCLB	
Amiel	R	Citizen	

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