

Rio Hondo

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)

Meeting Minutes



Tuesday, April 21, 2026
2:05pm – 3:05 pm
Library Community Room
321 S Myrtle Ave, Monrovia, CA 91016
WebEx Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Julian Juarez, Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Agency)
Patty Cortez, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Agency)
Lauren Augino, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster (Agency)
Francisco Guerrero, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (Agency)
Jeff Khun, City of Pasadena Public Works (Agency)
Jesus Rojas, Resident (Community)
Bryan Matsumoto, Nature for All (Community)
Latoya Waters, Alhambra (Municipal)
Eddie Chan, Irwindale (Municipal)
Alex Tachiki, Monrovia (Municipal)
Dawn Petschauer, Pasadena (Municipal), Chair
*Donna Tran, Los Angeles County (Municipal)
Jenna Cobb, Active San Gabriel Valley (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

Committee Members Not Present:

Marisol Cortez, Resident (Community)
Allen Ma, Resident (Community)
Briget Arndell, Arcadia (Municipal)
Stephanie Sandoval, Duarte (Municipal)

*Committee Member Alternate

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

1) Welcome and Introductions

Dawn Petschauer, Chair of the Rio Hondo (RH) Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC), welcomed Committee Members and called the meeting to order once quorum was achieved. The meeting began one hour later than planned for quorum to be established. 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 quorum.

New WASC Members Jesus Rojas and Francisco Guerrero provided introductions.

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 17, 2026

Public Works staff presented the minutes from March 17, 2026. Member Latoya Waters motioned to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Member Alex Tachiki. The WASC voted to approve the March 17, 2026 meeting minutes with 10 votes in favor, 0 opposed, and 2 in abstention (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

3) Committee Member and Program Updates

Public Works deferred updates to the next meeting to allow sufficient time for the discussion items.

4) Watershed Coordinator Updates

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Watershed Coordinator Jenna Cobb shared a one-page overview summarizing all proposed Projects, which is intended to serve as a resource to support Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) deliberations.

5) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

There were no ex parte communications.

6) Public Comment

Public Works staff compiled all public comment cards received by 5:00pm the day prior. 17 public comments were submitted and posted on the [Safe, Clean Water \(SCW\) Program website](#).

Mackenzie Bolger (San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG)) expressed support for the Climate Resistance and Resilience Scientific Study, noting that the Scientific Study has been included in the Upper Los Angeles River (ULAR) and Upper San Gabriel River (USGR) SIPs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (FY26-27).

Cesar Ramirez (City of Pasadena) noted that the City of Pasadena is further reducing the overall funding request to \$200,600 per year for 5 years for operations and maintenance (O&M) for the Sierra Madre Boulevard Median Enhancement Project. Ramirez added that the Eaton Wash Stormwater Capture Project increases student access to green space, is supported by Our Water Los Angeles (OWLA), and could lose \$6.5M in Caltrans funding if not spent by 2027.

Je-Show Yang (Asian Pacific Islander Movement) expressed support for the Alhambra Story Park Stormwater Capture Project, noting that the Project would capture and treat runoff while incorporating recreational and park improvements.

Michael Scaduto (City of Alhambra Environmental Sustainability Commission) expressed support for the Alhambra Story Park Stormwater Capture Project.

Stefanie Boettcher (Alhambra Unified School District) expressed support for the Alhambra Story Park Stormwater Capture Project, describing it as a dual-purpose effort important for water retention and park amenity upgrades.

Benjamin Harris (LA Waterkeeper) expressed support for the Quantifying Community Flood Management Benefits of Watershed-Scale Stormwater Capture Scientific Study, noting that current evaluation methods do not assess watershed-scale benefits and the importance of understanding stormwater capture's role in flood management amid larger storm events.

Sanjay Mohanty (University of California, Los Angeles) expressed support for the Regional Contaminants of Concerns and Pollutant Event Mean Concentrations in Stormwater Assessment Scientific Study, noting that contaminants such as polyfluoroalkyl substances or PFAS are increasingly found in stormwater and groundwater but are not consistently monitored.

7) Presentations and Discussion Items

a) RH Project Prioritization and Selection Discussion for Populating the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Stormwater Investment Plan

Public Works staff shared updates to applications made since the last RH WASC meeting, including:

- The majority of the WASC is in agreement with the Plymouth School Neighborhood Stormwater Capture Demonstration, Project Modification Request (PMR).
- Washington Park Stormwater Capture Project, a continuing project with earmarked funding, agreed to reallocate funding, pushing out their three years of earmarked funding for two years.
- Two WASC Members resubmitted their Project Preliminary Rankings.

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- El Monte Norwood Elementary School Stormwater Capture Project, a continuing project with earmarked funding, agreed to move earmarked funding from FY26-27 to FY27-28.
- South El Monte High School Stormwater Improvement Project, which is not a continuing Project, has withdrawn. The awarded funds of \$1,264,800 from FY24-25 SIP were never disbursed and has been returned to the WASC reflected in the SIP Tool.
- The Sierra Madre Boulevard Median Enhancement Project application previously reduced their funding request by \$8.5 million through the submitted Funding Reduction Concurrence Form and confirmed a further reduced funding request of \$1,003,000 for O&M over the next five years.
- City of San Gabriel, the Project Developer of the Vincent Lugo Park Stormwater Capture Project, which is not a continuing project with earmarked funding, met with the County Unincorporated Area to discuss a potential collaboration. Project support will come from the SCW Municipal Program Team who may facilitate certain design-related services in a pilot capacity, if the contract terms are amenable to both parties.

Chair Petschauer facilitated the SIP deliberation discussion with the WASC, starting with a discussion on the PMR and then the previously-funded Projects before the Infrastructure Project and Scientific Study applications.

The WASC discussed the possibility of moving the previously-funded Vincent Lugo Park Stormwater Capture Project, which is not a continuing project with earmarked funding, from Infrastructure Program to the Technical Resources Program (TRP) to help advance the Project. The WASC noted that the initial funding ask may no longer be sufficient and the Project Developer most likely will have to return to the WASC to request additional funding through a PMR. Mike Antos (Stantec, Regional Coordination) shared that the SCW Municipal Program team now has mechanisms for Public Works to support a range of Projects. Antos confirmed that this process is different from a TRP, and that this Project has already been allocated resources by an approved SIP.

Upon inquiry, Public Works staff confirmed that the City of San Gabriel is still moving forward with the Vincent Lugo Park Stormwater Capture Project and does not intend to withdraw the Project. Public Works reminded the WASC that the City of San Gabriel will be invited to speak during an appropriate future agenda item, Regional Program Reporting Summary, in the summer and that the WASC should only deliberate on new applications and continuing Projects with earmarked funding for the current agenda item. Projects without earmarked funding are not part of the current agenda item as the WASC does not have discretion over those projects.

Public Works clarified that awarded funds from the past cannot be reallocated, and the Project Developer would need to withdraw the Project and reapply to the SCW Program. Antos clarified that Projects that do not have fully awarded funds, which have earmarked funding, remain flexible and can be adjusted. Public Works staff added that guidelines are being developed to limit how long Projects can retain awarded funds without executing a Transfer Agreement. Public Works staff urged the WASC to begin discussion on the current Infrastructure Project and Scientific Study applications as part of the agenda.

Upon Chair's request, Bolger provided a status update on the previously awarded Alhambra, Rubio, and Eaton Wash Dry-Weather Diversion Projects, which are not continuing projects and do not have earmarked funding, noting that the acquisition was included in the original scope. For the Alhambra Wash, Bolger stated that the acquisition involves an empty lot owned by Southern California Edison, which will be used as a temporary construction easement. For the Eaton Wash, the site includes a mobile home laundry facility; negotiations have not yet begun, but the Project may require relocation of the laundry facility and up to five temporary construction easements on adjacent residential properties, each no larger than 300 square feet. For the Rubio Wash, acquisition consists of a partial acquisition of a parcel that includes a billboard. Bolger noted that permit applications have been submitted and are progressing through the County; however, Project delays are primarily due to the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the right-of-way and construction. A budget shortfall has also contributed to delays.

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Chair Petschauer and Member Waters confirmed that the Cities of Pasadena and Alhambra opted out of the Alhambra, Rubio, and Eaton Wash Dry-Weather Diversion Projects, which reduced the total amount of leveraged funding. Chair Petschauer also commented on recent design changes, noting that the Projects may not still provide sufficient benefit if leveraged funding remains limited and Nature-Based Solutions are minimal.

Antos shared that the SCW Program currently relies on regular reporting to track changes, and significant scope changes should be documented through a PMR. For Projects that already have full funding budgeted in past SIPs, administrative oversight systems and tools are still being strengthened, as Public Works staff mentioned earlier.

Public Works staff again reminded the WASC that the Alhambra, Rubio, and Eaton Wash Dry-Weather Diversion Projects do not have earmarked funding and therefore are not part of the discussion for the current agenda item. Public Works staff urged the WASC to discuss the preliminary rankings of the Infrastructure Project and Scientific Study applications and populate potential SIP Tool scenarios.

Public Works staff shared the RH WASC Preliminary Project Rankings FY26-27 on screen for WASC consideration.

The WASC discussed the PMR and noted that the majority of WASC expressed support in the preliminary ranking survey. Chair Petschauer also suggested prioritizing O&M Project applications.

Member Bryan Matsumoto suggested considering a partial funding award for other Infrastructure Project applications, such as the East Los Angeles Sustainable Median Stormwater Capture Project, noting that it did not receive Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District funding and therefore could not request O&M funding from that program.

Gabriel Zavala Jr. and Alexandro Garcia (Los Angeles County) explained that the East Los Angeles Sustainable Median Stormwater Capture Project is a median rather than a park and, as such, is not managed by a park department. Antos shared that partial funding offers made by the WASC will require engagement between Project Applicant and PW staff between meetings to prepare a Funding Reduction Concurrence Form per the Partial Funding Guidelines, or to decline the offer.

Member Matsumoto, on behalf of the WASC, proposed a partial funding amount of \$1.0 million for the East Los Angeles Sustainable Median Stormwater Capture Project, \$14 million for the Rio Hondo Ecosystem Restoration Project, and \$14 million for the Eaton Wash Stormwater Capture Project. Public Works will coordinate with the Project Applicants and return with outcomes at the next meeting.

Member Tachiki shared that the Rio Hondo Ecosystem Restoration Project is open to a partial funding discussion and that the City of Monrovia has flexibility with spending its Caltrans leveraged funding. Chair Petschauer noted that the Eaton Wash Stormwater Capture Project could consider partial funding but highlighted that funding for the Sierra Madre Boulevard Median Enhancement Project had already been reduced by the City of Pasadena in recognition of the budget limitations. Chair Petschauer expressed uncertainty about whether the City of Pasadena could also cover additional funds for the Eaton Wash Stormwater Capture Project and emphasized that Caltrans funding must be expended by 2027.

Public Works staff requested that WASC Members come prepared with specific scenarios for discussion at the next meeting.

8) Public Comment

There were no public comments.

9) Voting Items

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- a) **Approve the final Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Stormwater Investment Plan funding recommendation for the Rio Hondo Watershed Area including Watershed Coordinator and approve submission to the Regional Oversight Committee for review**

Final FY26-27 SIP funding recommendations for the RH Watershed Area will be continued at the next meeting.

Chair Petschauer made a motion to approve the Plymouth School Neighborhood Stormwater Capture Demonstration Project PMR of \$109,148.76, seconded by Member Patty Cortez. The WASC voted to approve this motion with 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 in abstention (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

The WASC discussed the possibility of considering the Workforce Development Program to help with implementation funding. Public Works staff clarified that while the Workforce Development Program provides opportunities for O&M training and partnerships, it does not provide direct funding but there may be other pathways through the SCW District Program.

Chair Petschauer confirmed that the final funding ask for the Sierra Madre Boulevard Median Enhancement Project is \$200,600 per year for O&M over the next five years for a total request of \$1,003,000.

10) Items for Next Agenda

The next meeting is scheduled for May 19, from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. More information is available on the [SCW Program website](#). Agenda items for the next meeting include:

- a) Rio Hondo Project Prioritization and Selection Discussion for Populating the FY26-27 SIP
- b) Priorities for 2026 Call for Projects

11) Adjournment

Chair Petschauer thanked the WASC Members and the public for their attendance and participation, and adjourned the meeting.

Rio Hondo WASC - April 21, 2026							
Member Type	Position	Quorum Present				Voting Items	
		Member	Voting/ Present?	Alternate	Voting/ Present?	Approve 3/17/2026 Meeting Minutes	Approve the Plymouth School Neighborhood Stormwater Capture Demonstration Project PMR of \$109,148.76
Agency	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	Julian Juarez	x	Alynn Sun		y	y
Agency	Upper San Gabriel District	Patty Cortez	x	Katherine Vazquez		y	y
Agency	Main San Gabriel Basin	Lauren Augino	x	Justin Nakano		y	y
Agency	LA County Sanitation Districts	Francisco Guerrero	x	Alysha Chan		a	y
Agency	Pasadena Public Works	Jeff Khun	x	Brent Maue		y	y
Community Stakeholder	Resident	Jesus Rojas	x			y	y
Community Stakeholder							
Community Stakeholder	Resident	Marisol Cortez					
Community Stakeholder	Nature for All	Bryan Matsumoto	x	Jade Nguyen		y	y
Community Stakeholder	Resident	Allen Ma					
Municipal Members	City of Alhambra	Latoya Waters	x	Eddie Villegas		y	y
Municipal Members	City of Arcadia	Briget Arndell		Carmen Masud			
Municipal Members	City of Duarte	Stephanie Sandoval		Marvin Carpio			
Municipal Members	City of Irwindale	Eddie Chan	x			y	y
Municipal Members	City of Monrovia	Alex Tachiki	x	Sophia Sousa		y	y
Municipal Members	City of Pasadena	Dawn Petschauer*	x	James Tong		y	y
Municipal Members	LA County Public Works	Kara Plourde		Donna Tran	x	a	y
Watershed Coordinator (Non-Voting Member)	Active San Gabriel Valley	Jenna Cobb	x	David Diaz			
Total Non-Vacant Seats		16			Yay (Y)	10	12
Total Voting Members Present		12			Nay (N)	0	0
Agency		5			Abstain (A)	2	0
Community Stakeholder		2			Total	12	12
Municipal Members		5			Result	Approved	Approved

Attendees

Rio Hondo WASC Meeting April 21, 2026

Ali Sharbat - Cal Poly Pomona
Alynn Sun - LACPW
Becca Hansen - Stantec
Ben Harris - LA Waterkeeper
Briget Arndell - Arcadia
Christian Zabala - LACPW
Chris Klibowitz - Moore Institute
Craig Doberstein - Herrera
Dee Corhiran - Safe Clean Water LA
Dylan Ahearn - Herrera
Edna Robidas - TPL
Emily Huang - Stantec
Grace Kast - GK Consulting

Harumi Goya - Water Boards
Hannah Searles - Tree People
Je-Show Yang
Jenny Chau - LACPW
Jian Peng
Kevin Lai - SGVCOG
Kristina Moreno - LACPW
Latoya Waters - Alhambra
Mariam Rizk - LACPW
Marisela Velasquez - Safe Clean Water LA
Mayra Cabrera - Safe Clean Water LA
Mei-Lin Hanna - JLHA
Nan Jia - CWE

Nicole Rieger - Dudek
Oliver Galang - Craftwater
Paul Cranmer - Arcadia
Pauline Nguyen - Craftwater
RH AV
Sanjay Mohanty (UCLA)
Sofia Cardenas - LACPW
Soledad Sinada - LACPW
Stefanie Boettcher
Traci Gleason - Koa Consulting
Uriel Cobian - LACPW
Eddie Villegas - Alhambra
Michael Scaduto - Los Angeles



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 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN

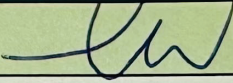
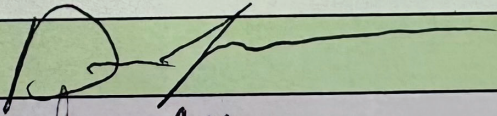
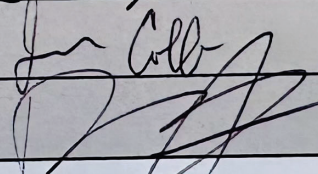
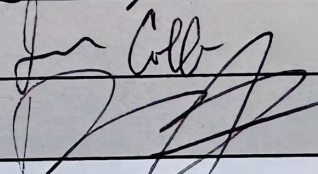
Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	P/A	Signature
Julian Juarez	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	P	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>
Alynn Sun	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	A	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>
Patty Cortez	Upper San Gabriel District	P	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>
Katherine Vazquez	Upper San Gabriel District	A	
Lauren Augino	Main San Gabriel Basin	P	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>
Justin Nakano	Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster	A	
Francisco Guerrero	Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts	P	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>
Alysha Chan	Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts	A	
Jeff Khun	Pasadena	P	
Brent Maue	Pasadena	A	
Jesus Rojas	Resident	P	
Jill Fosselman	Resident	P	
Marisol Cortez		P	
Bryan Matsumoto	Nature For All	P	
Jade Nguyen	Nature For All	A	
Allen Ma	Resident	P	

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COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	P/A	Signature
Latoya Waters	Alhambra	P	
Eddie Villegas	Alhambra	A	
Briget Arndell	Arcadia	P	
Carmen Masud	Arcadia	A	
Stephanie Sandoval	Duarte	P	
Marvin Carpio	Duarte	A	
Eddie Chan	Irwindale	P	
Alex Tachiki	Monrovia	P	
Sophia Sousa	Monrovia	A	
Dawn Petschauer	Pasadena	P	
James Tong	Pasadena	A	
Kara Plourde	LA County Public Works	P	
Donna Tran	LA County Public Works	A	
Jenna Cobb	Active SGV	WC	
David Diaz	Active SGV	WC	

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 PUBLIC SIGN-IN



First Name	Last Name	Municipality/Organization	Email Address
Courtney	Semlow	craftwater	[Redacted Email Addresses]
MERRILL	TAYLOR	CRAFTWATER	
Andrew	Cobb	Learning Works ^{Chart} _{State}	
Francisco	QUEVEDO	LACSD	
Ana Anast	Anguon	EL Monte	
Mackenzie	Bolger	SBVCOB	

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