

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



Thursday, March 26, 2026
1:30pm – 4:30pm
Los Angeles County Sanitation District – Conference Room E&F
1955 Workman Mill Rd
Whittier, CA 90601
WebEx Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Julian Juarez, Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Agency)
*Christopher Lapaz, Los Angeles County Sanitation District (Agency)
Andrea Vona, Los Angeles County Parks & Recreation (Agency)
Manuel D. Perez, Valley Vista Services, Inc (Community)
David Marquez, Urban Semillas (Community)
Jeanette Flores, Charter Oak Unified School District (Community)
Nicholas Delgado, Diamond Bar (Municipal)
Stephanie Ryan, Glendora (Municipal)
Matthew Hudson, Industry (Chair) (Municipal)
Eddie Chan, Irwindale (Municipal)
Julie Carver, Pomona (Municipal)
*Rafael Piamonte, Los Angeles County (Municipal)
James Cortes, Day One (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

Committee Members Not Present:

Tom Love, Upper San Gabriel District (Vice-Chair) (Agency)
Justin Nakano, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster (Agency)
Drew Ready, Council for Watershed Health (Community)
Stephanie Sandoval, Duarte (Municipal)

*Committee Member Alternate

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

1) Welcome and Introductions

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

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

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 26, 2026

Public Works staff presented the meeting minutes from February 26, 2026. Member Stephanie Ryan motioned to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Member Julian Juarez. The WASC voted to approve the meeting minutes with 6 votes in favor, 4 votes in abstention, 0 votes opposed, and 2 absent at the time of voting (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

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



3) Committee Member and Program Updates

There were no Committee Member updates.

Program Updates were deferred.

The Strategic Advancement Team provided updates:

- The Initial Watershed Plans and Online Planning Tool have officially been released and are available on the [SCW Program website](#).
- A Watershed Planning Project Developer Information Session was held virtually on March 18th to help Project Developers align their application with the Watershed Planning Initiative as part of the new 20th Requirement of the Feasibility Study Guidelines. The recorded Session is available on the [SCW Program website](#).
- Since the Community Strength and Needs Assessment's (CSNA) launch, 1,400 new survey responses have been collected. For the Upper San Gabriel Watershed Area, 234 responses have been collected.

4) Watershed Coordinator Updates

Watershed Coordinator Updates were deferred.

5) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

Member Rafael Piamonte disclosed having discussed the Bassett High School Stormwater Capture Multi-Benefit Project with a colleague to be prepared to provide updates on the Project if asked by the WASC.

6) Public Comment Period

Public Works staff compiled all public comment cards received by 5:00 PM the day prior. Thirteen public comments were submitted and posted on the [SCW Program website](#).

Annelisa Moe (OurWaterLA) provided public comment expressing support for the Ganesha Park Stormwater Capture Infrastructure Program (IP) Project, highlighting the Project's clear benefits to disadvantaged communities. Moe also expressed support for the San Jose Creek Greenway IP Project and the Climate Resistance and Resiliency: An Adaptive Framework for Stormwater Risk Management Scientific Study (SS).

Mackenzie Bolger (San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments) provided a public comment expressing support for the Climate Resistance and Resiliency: An Adaptive Framework for Stormwater Risk Management SS, noting that the Upper Los Angeles River (ULAR) WASC recommended the SS in their SIP.

Jorge Anaya (City of Pomona) provided public comment summarizing the public comment cards submitted by the City of Pomona City Manager and Mayor that advocated for the Ganesha Park Stormwater Capture Project.

7) Presentations and Discussion Items

a) Regional Program FY24-25 Annual Report Summary

Elyssa Lawrence (HDR) presented the Regional Program Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 (24-25) Annual Report Summary. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Member Ryan provided an update on the Glendora Avenue Green Streets Project, sharing that the Project has been withdrawn from the Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program.

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



Upon inquiry, Member Piamonte stated that the Bassett High School Stormwater Capture Multi-Benefit Project will start CEQA after the addendum to the Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) is complete (scheduled for completion in April) along with the design plans and cost sharing agreement.

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

Public Works staff provided an overview and demonstration of the [SIP Tool](#), which is available on the SCW Program website. Public Works staff presented a baseline scenario that included only Projects, Project Concepts, and Scientific Studies that were approved in previous SIPs with earmarked funds. Public Works staff then presented a scenario in which all considered projects funded. Finally, Public Works presented two scenarios to help emphasize long-term planning; one in which all considered projects were funded with additional potential IP costs and 25% leveraged funds, and another with 50% leveraged funds.

Public Works noted that staff reached out to WASC Members in advance of the meeting with a survey allowing Members to rank new applications from IP, SS, and TRP proponents. Public Works staff presented a summary of Members' responses. Public Works opened the discussion for WASC Members to request to view different scenarios within the SIP Tool.

Upon inquiry, Merrill Taylor (Craftwater) and David Diaz (ActiveSGV) stated that the San Jose Creek Greenway Project team would be open to reallocating the requested funding over Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (FY26-27) and FY27-28. Diaz added that the Project originally requested all SCW Program funding in FY26-27 with the goal of completing the Project as quickly as possible, due to other time-sensitive funding opportunities. Diaz confirmed that the Project would still be competitive for upcoming grant opportunities if the requested funding were spread between FY26-27 and FY27-28.

Chair Hudson requested a scenario in which the top five project applications ranked in the WASC Committee Member survey receive funding. This scenario resulted in a projected funding carryover of \$-1.6 million for FY26-27. The WASC requested to view the same scenario with funding for the San Jose Creek Greenway Project spread between FY26-27 and FY27-28, which resulted in a funding carryover of \$1.4 million for FY26-27.

Upon inquiry, Member Eddie Chan (City of Irwindale) and Merrill Taylor (Craftwater) expressed that the Arrow Highway Beautification and Stormwater Capture Project would be open to reallocating funding between FY26-27 and FY27-28. Member Christopher Lapaz requested to view the scenario with all projects included, and with funding for the Arrow Highway Beautification and Stormwater Capture Project and the San Jose Creek Greenway Project spread between FY26-27 and FY27-28. This scenario resulted in a funding carryover of \$1 million for FY26-27.

Watershed Coordinator James Cortes requested that Rio Hondo SS applicants share which other WASCs they applied to and if the absence of funding from other WASCs would impact implementation of the SS in USGR. Brianna Datti (Craftwater) clarified that the Climate Resistance and Resiliency: An Adaptive Framework for Stormwater Risk Management SS has been included in the ULAR WASC's SIP and stated that the SS could proceed individually in each Watershed Area and does not rely on approval from other WASCs. Win Cowger (Moore Institute for Plastic Pollution Research) clarified that the A Holistic Assessment of Trash in Watersheds SS has been included in the Lower Los Angeles River WASC's SIP and was not included in six other WASCs' SIPs. Cowger also stated that the SS could proceed individually in each Watershed Area and does not rely on approval from other WASCs. Upon inquiry, Dr. Sanjay Mohanty (UCLA) clarified that the Regional CECs and Pollutant EMCs in Stormwater Assessment SS has been included in the South Santa Monica Bay WASC's SIP, was requested to apply next year by the ULAR WASC, was denied by one WASC, and is waiting to hear from three other WASCs, including USGR.

Member Perez commented that perhaps the WASC should consider distributing funding outside of large capital-intensive projects and consider smaller projects that benefit communities that do not live near large

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



projects. Member Piamonte commented that there is a steep difference in ranking between the top five ranked projects and the bottom five ranked projects, and perhaps the WASC should prioritize funding for the top five ranked projects. Member Juarez commented that the WASC should discuss concerns for low-ranked projects to determine whether they should be approved.

Member Perez initiated a straw poll within the WASC to gauge support for funding the All Considered Projects scenario, with funding for the Arrow Highway Beautification and Stormwater Capture Project and the San Jose Creek Greenway Project spread between FY26-27 and FY27-28. The straw poll indicated that the WASC supported this scenario.

Member Ryan suggested that the WASC consider more scenarios before voting to approve the All Considered Projects scenario. Member Piamonte suggested that the WASC consider saving more funding for future FYs and commented that the WASC should consider projects more carefully before deciding.

Upon inquiry, Public Works staff clarified that when a WASC Member did not include a project in the ranking survey, that project received a score of 0 from that Member.

Member Perez asked what happens when a project funded by the SCW Program receives external funding from other sources. Public Works staff clarified that it is up to the project developer to disclose that they received that additional funding. A Project Modification Request (PMR) would then show a decrease in funding requested.

Member Carver requested a scenario with All Considered Projects, which includes funding for the Arrow Highway Beautification and Stormwater Capture Project and the San Jose Creek Greenway Project spread between FY26-27 and FY27-28, in addition to funding for the Ganesha Park Stormwater Capture Project redistributed across FY26-27, FY27-28, and FY28-29. This scenario resulted in a funding carryover of \$2.2 million for FY26-27, and allocated funding percentages of 90%, 52%, 25%, 1%, and 1% for FY26-27 through FY30-31. The WASC selected this scenario as a voting item.

8) Public Comment Period.

There were no additional public comments.

9) Voting Item

- a) **Approve the final Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Stormwater Investment Plan funding recommendation for the USGR Watershed Area including Watershed Coordinator and approve submission to the Regional Oversight Committee for review (funding scenario “All continuing Projects and Scientific Studies (with no funding changes); 5 New Projects (San Jose Creek Greenway reallocated over 2 years, Arrow Highway Beautification reallocated over 2 years, Ganesha Park reallocated over 3 years, ESGVWMG Drywells, Garvey Avenue Grade Separation), 3 New Scientific Studies (Holistic Assessment of Trash, Climate Resistance and Resiliency, Regional CECs), 2 New Project Concepts (Lyle Center, Royal Oak Middle School)**

Member Carver motioned to approve the final Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Stormwater Investment Plan for the USGR Watershed Area including Watershed Coordinator and approve submission to the ROC for review (funding scenario “All continuing Projects and Scientific Studies (with no funding changes); 5 New Projects (San Jose Creek Greenway reallocated over 2 years, Arrow Highway Beautification reallocated over 2 years, Ganesha Park reallocated over 3 years, ESGVWMG Drywells, Garvey Avenue Grade Separation), 3 New Scientific Studies (Holistic Assessment of Trash, Climate Resistance and Resiliency, Regional CECs), 2 New Project Concepts (Lyle Center, Royal Oak Middle School). The motion was seconded by Member Perez. The motion passed with 12 votes in favor, 0 votes in abstention, and 0 votes opposed (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

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



10) Items for Next Agenda

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 23, 2026 from 1:30pm to 4:30pm, to be held at the Sanitation District of Los Angeles County. More information is available on the [SCW Program website](#). Items on the next agenda include:

- Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP)

11) Adjournment

Chair Hudson thanked Committee Members and the public for their attendance and participation, and adjourned the meeting.

UPPER SAN GABRIEL RIVER WASC MEETING - MARCH 26, 2026

		Quorum Present				Voting Items (see meeting minutes for additional details)	
Member Type	Position	Member	Voting/ Present?	Alternate	Voting/ Present?	2/26/2026 Meeting Minutes	
Agency	Los Angeles County FCD	Julian Juarez	x	Alynn Sun		y	y
Agency	Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District	Tom Love		Katherine Vazquez			
Agency	Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster	Justin Nakano		Lauren Augino			
Agency	Sanitation Districts	Francisco Guerrero		Christopher Lapaz	x	y	y
Agency	Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation	Andrea Vona	x	Mayra Martinez Yasumura			y
Community Stakeholder	Valley Vista Services, Inc	Manuel D. Perez	x				y
Community Stakeholder	Urban Semillas	David Marquez	x			y	y
Community Stakeholder	Council for Watershed Health	Drew Ready		Jason Casanova			
Community Stakeholder	Charter Oak Unified School District	Jeanette Flores	x			a	y
Community Stakeholder							
Municipal Members	Duarte/Bradbury	Stephanie Sandoval		Kevin Kearney			
Municipal Members	Diamond Bar	Nicholas Delgado	x			a	y
Municipal Members	Glendora / Arcadia	Stephanie Ryan	x	Briget Arndell		a	y
Municipal Members	Industry	Mathew Hudson	x	Joshua Nelson		y	y
Municipal Members	Irwindale	Eddie Chan	x			y	y
Municipal Members	Pomona / San Dimas	Julie Carver	x	Lauren Marshall		y	y
Municipal Members	Unincorporated LA County	Kara Plourde		Rafael Piamonte	x	a	y
Watershed Coordinator							
Non-Voting Member	Watershed Coordinator	James Cortes	x				
Total Non-Vacant Seats		16			Yes (Y)	6	12
Total Voting Members Present		12			No (N)	0	0
Agency		3			Abstain (A)	4	0
Community Stakeholder		3			Total	10	12
Municipal Members		6			Approved		Approved

Webex Attendees
Upper San Gabriel River WASC Meeting
March 26, 2026

Elyssa Lawrence - HDR
Katie Harrel (CWE)
Jason Jade Pepito
USGR WASC
JCramsie
Mariam Rizk
Sophia Catalan - Stantec
Ali Sharbat
Jorge Anaya

John Mendoza
Liana Poghosyan
Alynn Sun
Craig Doberstein
Lauren Marshall
Mei-Lin Hanna (JLHA)
Win Cowger
Jon Abelson
Jonathan Abelson

Bob Lind
Annelisa Moe
Jake Martinez
Alice Leung
Oliver Galang
Sanjay Mohanty (UCLA)
Daniella Chadwick
Mehrad Kamalzare (CPP)
Emily Ng (Regional Coordination)

Grey Crisanto
Mayra Cabrera - SCWP
James Powell
Jenny Chau
Mackenzie Bolger
Nan Jia - CWE
James Carpenter - SCWP
Hannah Searles

Upper San Gabriel River
 Watershed Area Steering Committee Meeting
 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization		Signature
Alynn Sun	FCD	Alternate	
Andrea Vona	Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation	Primary	
Briget Arndell	Arcadia	Alternate	<i>Andrea Vona</i>
Christopher Lapaz	Sanitation Districts	Alternate	<i>Chris Lapaz</i>
David Marquez	California Consulting, INC	Alternate	<i>David Marquez</i>
Drew Ready	Council for Watershed Health	Primary	
Eddie Chan	Irwindale	Primary	<i>Eddie Chan</i>
Francisco Guerrero	Sanitation Districts	Primary	
James Cortes	Day One	WC	<i>James Cortes</i>
Jason Casanova	Council for Watershed Health	Alternate	
Jeanette Flores	Charter Oak Unified School District	Primary	
Joshua Nelson	Industry	Alternate	
Julian Juarez	FCD	Primary	<i>Julian Juarez</i>
Julie Carver	Pomona	Primary	<i>Julie Carver</i>
Justin Nakano	Main San Gabriel Basin	Primary	

Upper San Gabriel River
 Watershed Area Steering Committee Meeting
 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization		Signature
Kara Plourde	Los Angeles County	Primary	
Katherine Vazquez	Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District	Alternate	
Kevin Kearney	Bradbury	Alternate	
Lauren Augino	Main San Gabriel Basin	Alternate	
Lauren Marshall	San Dimas	Alternate	
Manuel D. Perez	Valley Vista Services, Inc.	Primary	
Mathew Hudson	Industry	Primary	
Mayra Martinez Yasumura	Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation	Alternate	
Nicholas Delgado	City of Diamond Bar	Primary	
Rafael Piamonte	Los Angeles County	Alternate	
Stephanie Ryan	Glendora	Primary	
Stephanie Sandoval	Duarte	Primary	
Tom Love	Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District	Primary	

