

Regional Oversight Committee

Meeting Minutes



Wednesday, June 10, 2026

1:00 – 3:30pm

LA County Public Works Headquarters, Alhambra Room

900 S. Fremont Ave, Alhambra, CA 91803

Zoom Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Maria Mehranian, Cordoba/Former Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Chair, Vice-Chair

Barbara Romero, City of Los Angeles

Diana Tang, Long Beach Water Department, Chair

Kristine Guerrero, League of California Cities

Belinda Faustinos, Retired NGO & State Agency Executive

Charles Treviño, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

Diana Mahmud, Former City Councilmember, City of South Pasadena

Carl Blum, Los Angeles County Flood Control District (non-voting member)

David Nahai, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Chair (non-voting member)

Committee Members Attending Virtually:

Lauren Ahkiam, LAANE

Bruce Reznik, Los Angeles Waterkeeper

Committee Members Not Present:

Barbara Romero, City of Los Angeles

Meeting Summary:

The ROC received an update on the District Grants Program for Engagement, Workforce Development, and K-12 Education. The ROC reviewed and approved Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) recommendations from four Watershed Area Steering Committees, including North Santa Monica Bay, Central Santa Monica Bay, Lower Los Angeles River, and Upper Los Angeles River.

Key Action Items:

- Public Works staff will submit remaining SIP Transmittals to the ROC as they are finished along with links to resources.
- Public Works staff will offer updates on requested topics at future ROC meetings, including District Program, Municipal Program, and Regional Program Audits and provisions to address projects with lapsed funding or delayed progress.
- Public Works staff will consider feedback on the Scientific Studies Advisory Panel and the process to review regional studies when developing next steps.
- Public Works staff will consider feedback on the process to review Project Modification Requests and potential impacts to the scoring threshold.

1) Welcome and Attendee Instructions

Diana Tang, Chair of the Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program Regional Oversight Committee (ROC), welcomed Committee Members and members of the public and called the meeting to order.

2) Roll Call

The Executive Clerk conducted a brief tutorial on Zoom and announced that the meeting was being broadcast live in Spanish.

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Chair Tang welcomed Member David Nahai as a new ROC Member. Member Nahai made a self-introduction and expressed excitement to join the ROC.

Member Lauren Ahkiam and Member Bruce Reznik joined the meeting virtually on Zoom. The Executive Clerk confirmed just cause for remote attendance.

3) Agenda Review and Meeting Purpose

Chair Tang reviewed the agenda and shared that the purpose of the meeting is to receive updates on the Districts Grants Program for Engagement, Workforce Development and K-12 Education and to review Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) recommendations from Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs).

4) Ex Parte Communication Disclosures

Member Reznik disclosed serving on the Scoring Committee, which scored Infrastructure Program projects in the proposed FY26-27 SIPs, and on the Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) during SIP deliberations.

5) Approval of April 8, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Chair Tang presented the April 8, 2026 meeting minutes. Member Belinda Faustinos requested that meeting minutes be pulled and revised to capture all Committee Member comments made during the meeting. Chair Tang suggested that meeting minutes attribute certain comments to specific members of the ROC.

6) Public Comment Period

20 public comment cards were submitted prior to the meeting and can be found on the [SCW Program website](#). Virtual attendees, call-in users, and in-person attendees were invited to provide public comment.

James Cluxton (OhanaVets) provided public comment regarding the Lower San Gabriel River Watershed Coordinator procurement process. Cluxton urged ROC Members to reference the full public comment card submitted on the SCW Program website.

Clara Solis (member of the public) provided public comment and referenced the full letter submitted on the SCW Program website regarding the approval of the Arroyo Park Infiltration Gallery Project. Solis expressed concern regarding misinformation shared by the Project Proponent to the WASC. Solis asserted that over 4,000 members of the public submitted comments opposing the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project. Solis requested that the ROC investigate the funding of the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project and investigate potential conflict of interest between Upper Los Angeles River WASC Members, Public Works staff, and approval of projects in the Watershed Area.

Jens Jonason (Garvanza resident) commented about the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project. Jonason commented that public opposition is related to the City of Los Angeles parcel, which will house a pump station and pre-treatment unit. Jonason commented that Los Angeles City Council Member Ysabel Jurado introduced a resolution that would place the entire City of Los Angeles on record against the project indefinitely by blocking the project's lease of the half-acre parcel. Jonason asserted that opposition has been expressed by a small number of residents trying to oppose the project. Jonason recommended the ROC contact the City of Los Angeles' Rules Committee members and submit public comments on the resolution to urge them to hold the resolution until the City has further analyzed the impacts of this decision.

Pilar Reynaldo (Garvanza resident) commented and expressed support for the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project. Reynaldo commented that both projects will provide a multitude of benefits for the Cities of Pasadena, South Pasadena, and Los Angeles. Reynaldo asserted that these projects will improve these sites near areas where families recreate. Reynaldo commented that Save San Pascual Park organization has spent time disinforming the community. Reynaldo urged the ROC to fund the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project.

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Yael Pargas (Save San Pascual Park) commented that San Pascual Park is a gem with functioning habitat and a myriad of trees. Pargas commented that 85% of trees will be removed as a result of the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project and will replace functioning habitat with an artificial lake. Pargas urged the ROC to review funding requirements of this project and object it. Pargas noted that thousands of community members have signed-on to oppose the project.

Constance Villalvazo (Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council) expressed concern regarding the new basin infiltration system proposed for the Arroyo Seco Water Diversion project. Villalvazo commented that their jurisdiction includes Los Angeles Council District 14, which is one of the most densely populated areas in the country and was historically redlined. Villalvazo expressed concern that the project will destroy native riparian habitat, cause human health impacts, and is not considering views submitted by the Kizh Nation throughout the process.

Amada Segura (San Pascual Valley resident) commented and expressed opposition for the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project. Segura commented that the San Pascual community is identified as a disadvantaged community on the Climate and Environmental Justice Screening Tool, while the Garvanza community is not.

Josh Kashapata (San Pascual resident) voiced opposition to the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project. Kashapata asserted that the people opposing the project is not a small group. Kashapata commented that the Project would remove over 50 native plants and take years to regrow. Kashapata additionally commented that many of those who live in the project area are minority groups that do not speak English as a first language. Kashapata asserted that there should be other water sources for the golf course.

Jenny Newman (Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board) provided public comment and expressed appreciation that most projects in the SIP are cost-effective and make meaningful progress towards MS4 compliance. Newman expressed caution about dry-weather diversion projects, including diversion of dry-weather flow before entering storm drains. Newman commented that diversion of water from creeks and open channels raises concerns, since permittees would be responsible for TMDL compliance at flows upstream of a diversion point. Newman noted that this is not the first time dry-weather projects have been proposed in SIPs and there is a path forward.

Maggie Gardner (OurWater LA (OWLA Coalition) recommended the approval for the FY26-27 SIPs. Gardner urged ROC Members to review OWLA's full recommendation letter, which can be found on the SCW Program website. Gardner commented on some patterns from FY26-27 applications, including that narrative responses in the Community Investment Benefits section and anti-displacement section were lacking in detail. Gardner highlighted the Reimagining La Brea Tar Pits: An Investment in Community, Green Space, and Water Quality Enhancement Project and its Tribal partnerships, and expressed a desire to see similar partnerships in the future. Other notable projects include the East Los Angeles Sustainable Median Stormwater Capture O&M Project, Eaton Wash Stormwater Capture Project, Edward Vincent Jr. Park Stormwater Improvements Project, Ganesha Park Stormwater Capture Project, and Sky Sanctuaries: San Vincente Streetscape Plaza Project.

7) Program Administration Updates

Public Works staff reviewed the topics from past, present, and future ROC meetings and highlighted reported metrics from the Regional, Municipal, and District Programs. Presentation slides can be found on the [SCW Program website](#).

Public Works staff provided the following updates:

- Watershed Planning
 - The Community Strengths and Needs Assessment (CSNA) has received over 1,900 responses to date. Responses are geolocated for Project Developers to filter responses, zoom in, and view community input to help inform project development.

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- Regional Program
 - Interim Scientific Studies Program Guidelines have been developed and are now posted on the [SCW Program website](#).
 - Public Works staff has distributed surveys soliciting input on Scoring Criteria and Feasibility Study Guidelines revisions. Responses should be submitted by June 30. These recommendations will be reviewed and will help guide updates to the Scoring Criteria.
 - The 2026 Call for Projects deadline is July 31. The Continuing O&M pathway has been streamlined during this round and more information has been provided on how to demonstrate alignment with Initial Watershed Plans, the integration of the new Interim Scientific Studies Program Guidelines, and the integration of the new Scoring Pilot. A line in the application has also been added for applicants to acknowledge repercussions for failure to execute a Transfer Agreement.
- Municipal Program
 - Project partnership services are now available, as announced during the April ROC meeting. Cities can submit a request through the Los Angeles County Public Works Cities Service Contract. These services can provide extra support to cities in identifying regional scale projects.
- SCW Program Project Highlight
 - Winery Canyon Channel and Descanso Gardens Stormwater Capture and Reuse Project hosted a groundbreaking on May 18. The project is funded by the SCW Program in addition to leveraging County Measure A Regional Parks and Open Space District funding. The Project captures 65-acre feet per year and allows Descanso Gardens to store 3 million gallons onsite for fire response.
 - David M. Gonzalez Recreation Center Stormwater Capture Project also hosted a groundbreaking on May 18. The Project features a 2.6-acre underground infiltration gallery and anticipates capturing 450-acre feet of stormwater each year.

Upon request from the April ROC meeting, Public Works staff provided additional information on Water Supply Targets and an overview of the SCW Grants Programs. Presentation slides can be found on the [SCW Program website](#).

Member Faustinos requested that the ROC receive more information about all levels of audits in the SCW Program (e.g., District Program, Regional Program, Municipal Program, and project-specific) during its August meeting. Member Faustinos requested more information about when audits are prepared and how to access reports.

Upon inquiry, Public Works staff clarified that new Scoring Criteria revisions have not yet been made, and the survey will better inform revisions. Public Works will present Scoring Criteria revisions to the ROC in August, prior to moving forward with the revisions.

Member Belinda Faustinos recommended that ROC Members reference each SIP Transmittal and the accompanying presentation slides presented to the WASCs, which summarize each project and study submitted. Member Faustinos requested that these presentation slides and Scientific Study Peer Reviews be linked and shared with the ROC for the July meeting.

8) Action Item: Review FY26-27 SIP Recommendations and Consider Approving for Submittal to the Board of Supervisors

Ryanna Fossum (Stantec, Regional Coordination) provided an overview of SIP guidance given to WASC Members prior to SIP deliberations. WASC Chairs were invited to provide additional details on SIP recommendations. [Presentation slides](#) and [SIP Transmittals](#) are available on the SCW Program website.

Member Mehranian asked how a WASC could remove a continuing project from the SIP. Fossum clarified that if a continuing project has changed significantly since its original application, the Project Developer

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would have had to submit a Project Modification Request by October 31, 2025 to be considered in the FY26-27 SIP. The WASC could then discuss potentially removing funds that had been previously earmarked for the continuing project in the SIP during deliberations, which typically begin in the spring. The Executive Clerk clarified that a project receives funding for one year at a time and funding is earmarked for the subsequent four years. If the continuing project has been changed, the WASC can decide to modify or even drop the earmarked funding to the project in future years.

a) North Santa Monica Bay

Fossum provided an overview of North Santa Monica Bay's (NSMB) SIP recommendation. NSMB WASC Chair Jessica Forte shared that the NSMB WASC is targeting a single-year increase in funding for the Watershed Coordinator, since the Watershed Coordinator's responsibilities have grown and include a broader scope. Chair Forte additionally highlighted that NSMB WASC Members have expressed interest in finding solutions to improve water quality issues in Topanga and Malibu, especially given diversion to sewer is not an option in these areas since much of the area is unsewered. The NSMB WASC would like to see applications related to improving conditions in these areas. Chair Forte mentioned some Scientific Studies that WASC is looking for in future years, including hydraulic modeling and mapping studies to better define flow rates and wet weather TMDL compliance. Chair Forte shared that the NSMB WASC must be intentional in its investments due to its limited annual regional funding.

Member Faustinos asked about a lease on the parcel for the Westlake Village MS4 Project, since the project would be sited on private property owned by a homeowner's association (HOA). Chair Forte clarified that the lease would be between City of Westlake Village and the HOA. Member Faustinos urged Public Works staff to review lease agreements in-depth for SCW Program-funded projects located on privately owned property.

Member Diana Mahmud asked about the status of the Liberty Canyon Road Green Improvement Project and Cornell – Mulholland Highway Green Improvement Project, both of which are previously approved projects and are not part of the proposed SIP. Chair Forte noted that both projects are currently not moving forward. Specific questions can be directed towards Los Angeles County Public Works, the Project Developer for both projects.

Upon inquiry, Fossum clarified that WASCs cannot remove funds for a Scientific Study in a recommended SIP upon discovering that other WASCs did not fund the study. Fossum noted that WASCs will often ask the Study Applicant how the scope would be impacted if it is not funded by other WASCs. Member Mahmud expressed concern over this process and assumptions made during SIP deliberations and suggested the Scientific Study Advisory Panel explore how to better address regional studies.

Member Mahmud commented that the \$2 million annual budget for the NSMB WASC is difficult to work with and suggested Public Works staff explore merging NSMB and Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Areas together to provide more access to funding.

Member Nahai and Member Carl Blum concurred with Member Mahmud's suggestion for the Scientific Study Advisory Panel. Member Nahai recommended that Scientific Studies that apply to multiple WASCs disclose this information more clearly.

Upon inquiry, Chair Forte noted that leverage funding has been particularly difficult for the region, given many funding programs do not prioritize projects in higher median household income areas, but confirmed that leveraged funding is still prioritized by the NSMB WASC.

Member Nahai referenced the NSMB SIP Transmittal and asked Chair Forte about the status of the Agoura Hills Stormwater Diversion Project, given that it has an upcoming anticipated construction end date of October 2026. Chair Forte shared that the WASC has recommended that the Project submit a PMR this year to signal project timeline delays. Member Nahai suggested that it may be helpful to review project deadlines and flag to Project Proponents when a PMR may be needed ahead of time.

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Member Nahai additionally referenced the public comment made earlier by Newman, emphasizing that WASCs need to understand dry-weather diversions alone will not reach MS4 regulatory compliance.

Member Faustinos motioned to recommend that the North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area FY2026-27 SIP is helping to achieve the SCW Program's Goals and therefore be approved, seconded by Member Charles Trevino. The motion passed with 8 votes in favor, 0 in abstention, and 0 opposed (approved, see vote tracker).

b) Central Santa Monica Bay

Fossum provided an overview of Central Santa Monica Bay's (CSMB) SIP recommendation. CSMB WASC Co-Chair Susie Santilena shared that the CSMB WASC had a difficult deliberation process this round, since there were so many strong applications proposed in the Watershed Area. The CSMB WASC's discussion focused on meeting the 80% allocation target for future funding and also balancing the types of projects (i.e., phases and scales). The CSMB WASC additionally prioritized the construction of the Edward Vincent Jr. Park Stormwater Improvements Project, noting that the Project is a strong example of the full breadth of the SCW Program, beginning with its inception through the Technical Resources Program. Prioritizing the Edward Vincent Jr. Park Stormwater Improvements Project resulted in constraints on the remaining SIP capacity. Co-Chair Santilena shared that Project Developers returned to the WASC and put forth more leverage funding to alleviate SIP budget constraints. Co-Chair Santilena noted the Slauson Connect Clean Water Project PMR received had decided to return to the WASC in the future with a more considerate and modest request. Co-Chair Santilena shared that other WASC Members commented on potential redundancies, such as projects that covered the same dry-weather areas, but the group determined that the projects created new wet-weather and Water Supply Benefits.

Member Faustinos encouraged the ROC to reference the Edward Vincent Jr. Park Stormwater Improvements Project, citing it as an exemplary project with a strong project summary, site plan, and community-led project design.

Member Faustinos expressed concerns about the effectiveness of the A Holistic Assessment of Trash in Watersheds Study and noted that public education is needed to address trash in waterways.

Member Mahmud commented about project construction completion dates on the SIP Transmittal, with inconsistencies in milestone dates that have already passed. Member Mahmud requested that future SIP Transmittals include updated information about projects so the ROC can more accurately assess project statuses and funding ability.

Member Reznik encouraged ROC Members to review the OWLA recommendation letter, which highlights exemplary projects in the CSMB Watershed Area.

Member Trevino motioned to recommend that the Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area FY2026-27 SIP is helping to achieve the SCW Program's Goals and therefore be approved, seconded by Vice-Chair Maria Mehranian. The motion passed with 8 votes in favor, 0 in abstention, and 0 opposed (approved, see vote tracker).

c) Lower Los Angeles River

Fossum provided an overview of Lower Los Angeles River's (LLAR) SIP recommendation. LLAR WASC Co-Chair Joseph Venzon highlighted that the WASC has funded three completed Infrastructure Program projects since the SCW Program's inception and has also supported eight other Infrastructure Program projects that are projected to be completed in the next eight years. These investments contribute to LLAR WASC's budget being strained this FY. Co-Chair Venzon shared that the LLAR WASC communicated to Project Applicants that the WASC was not prioritizing new Infrastructure Program projects in this SIP cycle, thus no applications were received. Co-Chair Venzon noted that many LLAR WASC Members, municipalities, and community-based organizations found value in the A Holistic Assessment of Trash in

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Watersheds Scientific Study and the Characterizing and Optimizing the Water Quality Benefits of In-Channel Vegetation Scientific Study, since the Watershed Area is highly urbanized.

Upon inquiry, Co-Chair Venzon shared that the LLAR WASC asked the Project Proponents of the A Holistic Assessment of Trash in Watersheds Scientific Study about the implications of funding the study in one WASC and not others and confirmed that the study can be conducted independently, regardless of support from other WASCs. Member Nahai recommended that the process for deliberating about studies that apply to more than one Watershed Area be improved.

Member Reznik motioned to recommend that the Lower Los Angeles River FY2026-27 SIP is helping to achieve the SCW Program's Goals and therefore be approved, seconded by Vice-Chair Maria Mehranian. The motion passed with 7 votes in favor, 0 in abstention, 0 opposed, and 1 absent at the time of vote (approved, see vote tracker).

d) Santa Clara River

This agenda item was deferred to the July ROC meeting due to time constraints.

e) Upper Los Angeles River

Fossum provided an overview of Upper Los Angeles River's (ULAR) SIP recommendation. ULAR WASC Vice-Chair Karo Torossian noted that the FY25-26 SIP featured the removal of the Metro Orange Line: A Water Infiltration and Quality Project for failure to achieve goals and benefits initially claimed. The \$6 million previously allocated to the project has only partially been returned to the Regional Program, but will ultimately increase the available budget for FY27-28 when received. Vice-Chair Torossian shared that the WASC wants to see Project Developers leverage more funding. Vice-Chair Torossian also clarified that the WASC has already fully funded the Arroyo Seco-San Rafael Treatment Wetlands Project in prior years and the WASC is unable to retroactively deliberate on funding that has been previously awarded. Vice-Chair Torossian commented that the project included in this SIP, the Arroyo Park Infiltration Gallery Project, was not the subject of public input.

Chair Tang clarified with Public Works staff that there are provisions in the Funds Transfer Agreement for lapsed funding. There will also be an added acknowledgement for Project Developers to complete when submitting an application that projects must make reasonable progress toward execution of the Funds Transfer Agreement if approved for funding in a SIP.

Member Mahmud clarified with Vice-Chair Torossian that the Rory M. Shaw Wetlands Park Project / Rory Shaw Park PMR reduced the anticipated Water Supply Benefits, but the WASC confirmed that these benefits still contribute to Water Supply goals. Member Mahmud confirmed with Fossum that PMRs are not reviewed by the Scoring Committee for verification of meeting the Scoring threshold, and it is up to the WASC to evaluate the modified projects.

Member Mahmud additionally asked about the status of receiving funds from Los Angeles Metro. Vice-Chair Torossian shared that County Counsel is working to coordinate returning these funds. Member Mahmud recommended a process improvement be made to those who do not return funds in a timely manner, precluding them from any future funding opportunity.

Upon inquiry, Member Kristine Guerrero clarified with Public Works staff that the ROC could recommend the WASC adjust the SIP on a programmatic level, but not at a line-item veto level, and that the WASC is not required to adjust the SIP.

Member Reznik noted that Watershed Planning Tools will be very helpful for WASC and the ROC in making future decisions. Member Reznik requested that the three priorities from SIP deliberations mentioned in the Executive Summary of SIP Transmittals be added to the presentation slides for the July ROC meeting, in addition to the spider web chart of IP project benefits.

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Vice-Chair Mehranian motioned to recommend that the Upper Los Angeles River FY2026-27 SIP is helping to achieve the SCW Program's Goals and therefore be approved, seconded by Member Guerrero. The motion passed with 6 votes in favor, 0 in abstention, 0 opposed, and 2 absent at the time of vote (approved, see vote tracker).

Member Mahmud commented that the spider web chart in the SIP Transmittals is often blank for the school greening benefits and emphasized the importance of making progress on this goal through the SCW Regional Program. Member Reznik commented that SCW Program school greening goals are less ambitious compared to County-wide school greening goals.

9) ROC Member Updates

No ROC members shared an update.

10) Items for Next Agenda/Lookahead

Public Works staff presented the two-year lookahead, which can be found on the [SCW Program website](#). Items for future meetings include:

- a. July – SIP Review & Recommendations

11) Meeting Adjourned

Chair Tang expressed gratitude and appreciation for Member Guerrero's contribution to the SCW Program and the ROC, on this the occasion of Member Guerrero's final meeting on the Committee.

Chair Tang thanked ROC Members and the public and adjourned the meeting at 3:40 PM.

Regional Oversight Committee - June 10, 2026				
	Quorum Present			
Member Type	Member	Present?	Motion to recommend that Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area FY2026-27 SIP is helping to achieve SCWP Program Goals and therefore be approved	Motion to recommend that Lower Los Angeles River Watershed Area FY2026-27 SIP is helping to achieve SCWP Program Goals and therefore be approved
Voting Member	Maria Mehranian	X	y	Y
Voting Member	Barbara Romero			
Voting Member	Diana Tang	X	y	Y
Voting Member	Kristine Guerrero	X	y	Y
Voting Member	Belinda Faustinos	X	y	Y
Voting Member	Lauren Ahkiam	X	y	
Voting Member	Charles Trevino	X	y	Y
Voting Member	Bruce Reznik	X	y	Y
Voting Member	Diana Mahmud	X	y	Y
Non-Voting Member	Carl Blum	X		
Non-Voting Member	David Nahai	X		
Total Non-Vacant Seats	9	Yay (Y)	8	7
Total Voting Members Present	8	Nay (N)	0	0
		Abstain (A)	0	0
		Total	8	7
			Approved	Approved

Regional Oversight Committee - June 10, 2026				
	Quorum Present			
Member Type	Member	Present?	Motion to recommend that North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area FY2026-27 SIP is helping to achieve SCWP Program Goals and therefore be approved	Motion to recommend that Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area FY2026-27 SIP is helping to achieve SCWP Program Goals and therefore be approved
Voting Member	Maria Mehranian	X	Y	Y
Voting Member	Barbara Romero			
Voting Member	Diana Tang	X	Y	Y
Voting Member	Kristine Guerrero	X	Y	Y
Voting Member	Belinda Faustinos	X	Y	Y
Voting Member	Lauren Ahkiam	X	Y	
Voting Member	Charles Trevino	X	Y	
Voting Member	Bruce Reznik	X	Y	Y
Voting Member	Diana Mahmud	X	Y	Y
Non-Voting Member	Carl Blum	X		
Non-Voting Member	David Nahai	X		
Total Non-Vacant Seats	9	Yay (Y)	8	6
Total Voting Members Present	8	Nay (N)	0	0
		Abstain (A)	0	0
		Total	8	6
			Approved	Approved

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COMMITTEE MEMBER SIGN-IN

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Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Email Address	
Voting Members			
Barbara Romero	City of Los Angeles		
Belinda Faustinos	Nature For All None		Belinda Faustinos
Charles Treviño	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD		Charles Treviño
Diana Tang	City of Long Beach		Diana Tang
Diana Mahmud	Former Mayor, City of South Pasadena		Diana Mahmud
Kristine Guerrero	League of Cities		Kristine Guerrero
Lauren Ahklam	LAANE		
Maria Mehranian	Cordoba, Former RWQCB Chair		Maria Mehranian
Bruce Reznik	LA Waterkeeper		
Non-Voting Members			
Carl Blum	Flood Control District		Carl Blum
David Nahai	LA Regional Water Quality Control Board Chair		David Nahai

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PUBLIC SIGN-IN

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First Name	Last Name	Municipality/Organization	Email Address
Joseph Venzon	Venzon	LA county PW	
HANNAH	Dewey	"	
Maggie	Gardner	LA waterkeeper	
Hector	Artes	ARCAIS	
Victoria Corta	Corta	Black + Veatch	
Celine	Gallon	LARWQCB	
Jenny	Newman	LARWQCB	
Karo	Torossian	CITY OF LA / GLAR	

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



Public Comment Form

Name*: James Cluxton Organization*: OhanaVets
Email*: _____ Phone*: _____
Meeting: Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) 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

Over the past year, we have repeatedly raised concerns regarding transparency, accountability, conflict-of-interest review, public records compliance, and public confidence in the administration of the Safe, Clean Water Program.

Many of these concerns have been presented through public comments, correspondence, and Public Records Act requests. Yet many of the underlying questions remain unanswered.

I would also like to correct a narrative that has developed regarding the Lower San Gabriel River Watershed Coordinator procurement. Despite references to transition activities, no meaningful transition occurred between OhanaVets and the selected firm. No transition plan was implemented, no substantive transfer of operations or materials occurred, and no operational handoff took place.

Despite public references suggesting that transition and continuity activities were occurring, the County's own contemporaneous records reflect no meaningful transition coordination involving OhanaVets following the selection process. To date, OhanaVets has had no direct correspondence with the incoming Watershed Coordinator regarding transition or continuity matters, and no operational handoff discussions, continuity planning, lessons learned, stakeholder introductions, or transfer of institutional knowledge associated with the LSGR Watershed Coordinator role have occurred. Any assumption that a completed transition occurred is incorrect.

From: [Jim Cluxton](#)
To: [DPW-SafeCleanWaterLA](#)
Subject: Public Comment Submission: Regional Oversight Committee – June 10, 2026 Meeting
Date: Friday, June 5, 2026 11:44:06 AM
Attachments: [Public Comment-ROC-June 12 2026.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Regional Oversight Committee Members,

Attached (and included below for convenience) is my public comment for the June 10, 2026 Regional Oversight Committee meeting.

I am providing the full text by email because the online submission process may truncate longer comments.

Please include this comment in the meeting record and distribute it to Committee members in accordance with the Committee's public comment procedures.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Jim Cluxton
President, OhanaVets



Over the past year, we have repeatedly raised concerns regarding transparency, accountability, conflict-of-interest review, public records compliance, and public confidence in the administration of the Safe, Clean Water Program.

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I would also like to correct a narrative that has developed regarding the Lower San Gabriel River Watershed Coordinator procurement. Despite references to transition activities, no meaningful transition occurred between OhanaVets and the selected firm. No transition plan was implemented, no substantive transfer of operations or materials occurred, and no operational handoff took place.

Despite public references suggesting that transition and continuity activities were occurring, the County's own contemporaneous records reflect no meaningful transition coordination involving OhanaVets following the selection process. To date, OhanaVets has had no direct correspondence with the incoming Watershed Coordinator regarding transition or continuity matters, and no operational handoff discussions, continuity planning, lessons learned,

stakeholder introductions, or transfer of institutional knowledge associated with the LSGR Watershed Coordinator role have occurred. Any assumption that a completed transition occurred is incorrect.

Equally concerning is the County's position regarding records associated with conflict-of-interest review. In response to a Public Records Act request, the County acknowledged that responsive records exist but asserted that disclosure would not be in the public interest. As a member of the public, I continue to question how records concerning conflict-of-interest review in a publicly funded procurement process can be considered contrary to the public interest to disclose.

Because these questions remain unresolved, OhanaVets recently submitted an additional Public Records Act request seeking records concerning the County's determination that disclosure of conflict-of-interest review records would not be in the public interest, including the underlying analysis, decision-making process, and individuals involved in that determination.

Transparency should strengthen public confidence. Resistance to transparency has the opposite effect.

The Regional Oversight Committee has now been notified of these concerns numerous times. At some point, continued awareness without meaningful inquiry risks undermining public confidence not only in individual decisions, but in the oversight process itself.

I respectfully urge the ROC to ensure that concerns regarding transparency, accountability, public records compliance, and conflict-of-interest review receive the attention they deserve and that the public is able to understand how decisions are made, how public funds are spent, and how potential conflicts are evaluated.

A publicly funded program cannot simply disregard documented concerns raised in good faith by a Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise operating under County direction and expect those concerns to disappear without transparency, accountability, and public scrutiny.

OhanaVets has preserved the associated administrative record, correspondence, and supporting materials and remains prepared to provide them to the Committee upon request.

Thank you.

Jim Cluxton
President, OhanaVets



Public Comment Form

Name*: Maggie Gardner Organization*: OurWaterLA Coalition

Email*: [REDACTED] Phone*: _____

Meeting: ROC Date: 6/10/2026

☒ LA County Public Works may contact me for clarification about my comments

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Comments

Please see attached letter



Date: June 10, 2026

To: ROC Committee Members

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

On behalf of the OurWaterLA (OWLA) coalition, the undersigned recommend that the Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) approve the Stormwater Investment Plans for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

As the ROC reviews the SIPs for fiscal year 2026-2027, we want to share the projects that stood out to us as well as the patterns we identified during our review of all of the infrastructure applications that passed the Scoring Committee. Our hope is that by sharing these projects and our observations, we can provide data to support the adaptive management of the program. Specifically, we want to ensure that the program continues to encourage exemplary projects and makes adaptive changes when necessary to address limitations of the program. The categories we consider in our review are:

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

Of the applications across the nine watershed areas, OWLA identified the following infrastructure projects as projects that exemplify the spirit of Measure W:

- 1. East Los Angeles Sustainable Median Stormwater Capture Project O&M (RH)**
 - a. This O&M project maintains approximately **1160 ac-ft per year of water supply.**
 - b. This O&M project maintains a nearly **4 acre open space and recreation area in a disadvantaged community.**
 - c. This O&M project maintains **185,000 square feet of native landscaping, 300 planted trees, and one acre of bioswales.**
- 2. Eaton Wash Stormwater Capture Project (RH)**
 - a. The project contributes both to **local groundwater recharge and meaningful environmental recharge.**
 - b. The project **creates a new passive park space** which will include **net gain of 449 trees.**

- c. The project will create **safe access** for the community across the Eaton Wash via a pedestrian bridge.
3. **Edward Vincent Jr. Park Stormwater Improvements Project (CSMB)**
 - a. The project has **strong community support** through inclusive, bilingual outreach, workshops, surveys, and partnerships that encouraged broad participation and directly shaped the project's design
 - b. The project **enhances community health and well-being** by revitalizing a dry creek in a park-poor area, creating accessible green space, and responding to local priorities with expanded habitat and recreational opportunities.
 - c. The project integrates stormwater infrastructure with **native vegetation and 167 new trees** to improve runoff filtration, sequester carbon, reduce urban heat, and support wildlife habitat along newly restored creek corridors and walking paths.
 4. **Ganesha Park Stormwater Capture Project (USGR)**
 - a. The project **prioritized community engagement** by conducting 5 stakeholder/community events, developing a project specific website, distributing a survey, and creating a future outreach plan and obtaining letters of support from 11 diverse stakeholders.
 - b. The project design **addressed community wants and needs**, specifically incorporating lighting, hydration stations, shade structures, trees, and seating based on feedback from WaterTalks and the LA County Park Needs Assessment.
 - c. The project **removes more than 135 lbs of zinc per year and infiltrates 40 ac-ft of water per year.**
 5. **Sky Sanctuaries: San Vicente Streetscape Plaza (CSMB)**
 - a. The project supports water quality and supply by treating diverted stormwater in bioretention cells for safe reuse, with **design refinements planned to address groundwater limitations and ensure effective environmental benefits.**
 - b. The project integrates **innovative stormwater management** through 22 street trees, movable planters, and three sculptural steel canopy structures planted with native trees and shrubs, improving soil health, creating habitat, increasing permeable surfaces, and supporting environmental resilience while maintaining public space.
 - c. The project enhances public health by providing a lifted oak woodland and plaza in a high-traffic, high-need area, creating a **welcoming community gathering space that addresses local priorities.**

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

- **Campus Community Connection: UCLA's Mobility, Stormwater Capture, and Greening Project (CSMB)** is a strong, well-quantified multi-benefit design that advances stormwater capture, groundwater recharge, urban greening, and active transportation within a dense urban setting.
- **Los Angeles Harbor College Stormwater Improvements Project (SSMB)** demonstrates the capture and treatment of off-site stormwater on an educational campus—an approach with significant potential for replication across Los Angeles County. We are encouraged to see this type of project proposed for funding. The project also presents meaningful opportunities for environmental education and workforce development.

- **Reimagining La Brea Tar Pits: An Investment in Community, Green Space, and Water Quality Enhancement (CSMB)** is notable for centering nature-based solutions through extensive native habitat restoration, soil enhancement, and biofiltration, while meaningfully partnering with Tribal representatives to embed cultural stewardship and education into long-term water quality and green space improvements.
- **San Jose Creek Greenway Project (USGR)** 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.
- **Sierra Madre Boulevard Median Enhancement Project (RH)** incorporates unique nature-based solutions elements including utilizing recycled wood from tree removals on the project and organic soil amendments to enrich the soil and promote long-term sustainability and hugelkultur mounds to mimic natural filtration and infiltration functions.

OWLA recommends the following scientific studies:

- 1. Benefits of Restoration and Land Preservation as Nature-Based Solutions to Water Quality and Water Supply (SCR)**
 - a. This study provides science-based methods to quantify water quality and water supply benefits, improving SCWP scoring consistency and project eligibility guidance for creek restoration, floodplain reconnection, and land preservation as multi-benefit water infrastructure. By rigorously evaluating these nature-based strategies, it also advances long-term watershed resilience and equity through reduced flood risk, enhanced groundwater recharge, and sustained community and climate benefits.
- 2. Characterizing and Optimizing the Water Quality Benefits of In-Channel Vegetation (ULAR/LLAR)**
 - a. This study will quantify how in-channel vegetation influences bacteria, nutrients, metals, sediment dynamics, temperature, and flood behavior, generating predictive modeling tools, management scenarios, and publicly accessible datasets to strengthen water quality decision-making. By providing stakeholder-informed guidance on how vegetation can be optimized for performance, it supports the integration and prioritization of nature-based solutions in river management while advancing multi-benefit outcomes, including improved ecosystem function, climate resilience, and more adaptive watershed management practices.
- 3. Climate Resistance and Resiliency: An Adaptive Framework for Stormwater Risk Management (ULAR/USGR)**
 - a. This study will assess how climate-related natural disasters affect stormwater systems, water quality, water supply, and infrastructure, providing actionable strategies to help Los Angeles communities prepare for and respond to increasing climate risks. By developing an adaptive framework for stormwater risk management, it supports more resilient, forward-looking investment decisions and strengthens the region's ability to protect public health, water resources, and critical infrastructure under changing climate conditions.

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

General Patterns:

1. **Narrative response, especially in Community Investment Benefits, was lacking** on a number of applications this round. Applicants should give thoughtful responses and try to provide as much context as possible. Strong examples are provided in projects like 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.**

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 to ensure a better water future for the region.

Sincerely,

OurWaterLA

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

From: [annette.gutierrez](#)
To: [DPW-SafeCleanWaterLA](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project 6/10/26
Date: Sunday, June 7, 2026 5:40:51 PM
Attachments: [Comment-Card-Form-1-1.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I cannot figure out how to fill in the comment card (attached below) so I am just answering it in this email

Annette Gutierrez
Concerned Citizen



Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project (San Rafael & San Pasqual)

I cannot attend any meetings and I wanted my comments to go on the record. I think there has been a lot of mis-information about this project and fear mongering that has caused many people to be turned off. I think this is a good project!!! We need the bacteria in the water reduced. We also need the parks cleaned up. This project is a win/win. There are too many people who are opposed to any change whatsoever and it is an ignorant viewpoint.

But I do agree there needs to be a much better job done in explaining exactly what this project is and what its benefits are. Most people do not go to any great level of research when they hear about things like this. If one person or small group is opposed, they just take their word for it because all they hear is it's going to ruin the arroyo. That's what I was thinking until I did better research. Go on Nextdoor. Get the Eastsider to do a story. Please tell them how it's going to improve it! We need this project.

Thank you,
Annette Gutierrez



Public Comment Form

Name*: Katrina Alexy Organization*: _____
Email*: [REDACTED] Phone*: [REDACTED]
Meeting: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Projects Date: 6-10-26

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Comments

Dear committee, I am writing you today as a citizen of Los Angeles who recreates on a daily basis near the Arroyo Seco sections that are currently involved in the potential changes planned for regarding the watershed designs proposed.

I have read the proposed changes and support the watershed plan as proposed as I feel it will only improve the quality of water, provide a safer system, and improve the overall terrain, specifically regarding the South Pasadena golf course which uses potable which is no longer sustainable. In South Pasadena some of the Cleaned storm drain runoff will be used to water the golf course.

I am enthusiastically supportive of the proposed site in South Pasadena across from the little league. Currently this site is home to a few unhoused encampments and has been set a blaze numerous times. I have documented the places where fires have been set on this site. Right now as I write this, there are many palm trees which are not native blackened by fires that were set by humans living in the area across from the little league adjacent to the LA river channel where there are a large amount of invasive trees currently. The proposed plan calls for removing these invasive weeds and trees and replacing them with Native habitat restoration which is much more fire retardant than invasive species and provides needed food for native fauna.

Walking paths and trails will be added to make the spaces user friendly which would benefit the communities of LA, South Pasadena, Pasadena. Non native trees and plants will be replaced by native trees that provide food for many species of birds and animals.

Please know I stand in support of the proposed watershed plan as it stands currently and hope it moves forward.

Sincerely, Katrina Alexy



Public Comment Form

Name*: Noel McCarthy Organization*: _____
Email*: _____ Phone*: _____
Meeting: ROC Meeting June 10 2026 Date: 6/7/2026

☒ LA County Public Works may contact me for clarification about my comments

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Comments

To the ROC Memebtrs -



I am a 15 year resident of Highland Park and I'd like to give voice to the many people who actually support the Arroyo Secco Water Reuse Project.

It has been quite disturbing these last several years to see "Save San Pascual" and "Stewards of the Arroyo Seco" traffic (knowingly) in transparently false information to garner the "support" they claim. This is a critical point to make since this misinformation campaign has translated into so many letters, calls - frivolous CRPA requests - and frankly, harrassement at all levels of of government over many juristictions.

The arguments against this project are almost entirely disingenuous - often dishonest - and definitley delusional (see Tim Brick)

Save San Pascual is a classic Nimby organization posing as an environmental/social justice one. What a terrible precedent this board would set by allowing a project like THIS to be stopped by transparently false narratives about stolen land and water.

If you support the bowtie project and Taylor Yards it makes zero sense to oppose this project - This is the model going forward for our watershed - The flood control Channel isn't going away in our lifetimes - so we need to move forward with a parallel system for cleaning and conserving water along with habitat restoration.

Crucially - this specific space is so important. It leverages tens of millions in existing infrastruture to achieve its goals. Please do not let this unhinged person (and I say person because if not for Clara Solis this project would already be done) derail an excellent project like this.

Thank you for your time.

To review the guidance documents and for more information, visit www.SafeCleanWaterLA.org

From: [Tera Landers](#)
To: [DPW-SafeCleanWaterLA](#)
Subject: public comment: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project
Date: Sunday, June 7, 2026 5:32:50 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Safe Clean Water LA:

My name is Tera Landers, and I am a resident/homeowner in the Garvanza neighborhood of Highland Park. I've lived here since 2008, and before that I was a resident of South Pasadena for 7 years.

I am writing in support of the proposed Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project. I love the Arroyo, and this project will make the area safer, create more wildlife habitat, and help filter our storm water in a beneficial way.

Thank you for moving this project forward.

With warm regards,
Rev. Dr. Tera Landers
Senior Pastor, Throop Unitarian Universalist Church


From: [Therese Brummel](#)
To: [DPW-SafeCleanWaterLA](#)
Subject: Water Filtration in the Arroyo comment
Date: Monday, June 8, 2026 7:27:45 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I am advocating for the restoration of clean water in the Arroyo, recharging our aquifers, native plants for our native insects, bugs and bees as well as birds and animals.
South Pas golf course can no longer take potable water for lawn!
The bonus will be more access to wilderness for citizens of Pasadena, So Pas, and Highland Park.

The money is there!

We must remember that we, our children and their children need a clean, vibrant natural environment for our physical, mental and emotional wellbeing.
No shortcuts, please!

Thank you.
Therese Brummel
Transition Pasadena
Pasadena resident 47 years

From: [Jonah Kanner](#)
To: [DPW-SafeCleanWaterLA](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Pasadena Area, June 10, 2026
Date: Monday, June 8, 2026 11:04:13 AM
Attachments: [kanner-comment-card.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

My name is Jonah Kanner - I live in the Pasadena area. I am writing to ask your support for the Arroyo Secco Water Reuse projects. These projects will create space for native plants and walking paths that local residents can enjoy. I think they would be a great benefit for our community.

Please find my comment card attached.

Thank you,
jonah



Public Comment Form

Name*: Jonah Kanner Organization*: _____
Email*: [REDACTED] Phone*: _____
Meeting: Regional Oversight Committee Meeting Date: June 10, 2026

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Comments

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Public Comment Form

Name*: Blair Miller Organization*: None

Email*: [REDACTED] Phone*: [REDACTED]

Meeting: Regional Oversight Committee Meeting Date: 6/10/2026

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Comments

I am writing in support of the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Projects. Both projects will install filtration systems to clean storm drain runoff, once water is cleaned they will infiltrate water to replenish ground water.

In South Pasadena the golf course is currently water with Potable water, which is no longer sustainable. In South Pasadena some of the Cleaned storm drain runoff will be used to water the golf course. Both sites are currently not accessible to the public, the site in South Pasadena is currently home to a few unhoused encampments and has been set a blaze numerous times.

Invasive weeds and trees will be removed and replaced with Native habitat restoration, which will benefit our migratory and pollinating friends.

Walking paths and trails will be added to make the spaces user friendly.

Please support these projects.

From: [Lisette Rodriguez](#)
To: [DPW-SafeCleanWaterLA](#)
Subject: Comment card for Regional Oversight Committee meeting on 6/10
Date: Monday, June 8, 2026 12:37:07 PM
Attachments: [Comment-Card-Form-1-1 Lisette Rodriguez.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Hi,

Please find attached a comment card for the Regional Oversight Committee meeting on Wednesday, 6/10. This comment card voices my support for the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project, which we so desperately need.

Thank you.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Lissette Rodriguez Organization*: Pasadena Complete Streets Coalition
Email*: [REDACTED] Phone*: [REDACTED]
Meeting: Regional Oversight Committee Date: 6/10/2026

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Comments

As a Pasadena homeowner who believes that water conservation will be key to the future of our region, I whole heartedly support the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project. Not only will this project help with water conservation, we will also get some lovely some walking paths and native habitats which will only benefit the region.

I urge you to move forward with the project. Thank you.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Katie Clark Organization*: South Pasadena resident

Email*: [REDACTED] Phone*: [REDACTED]

Meeting: Regional Oversight Committee Date: 6/10/2026 Meeting

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Comments

I am a longtime South Pasadena resident. I am writing to enthusiastically support the proposed project in the Arroyo at the San Pasqual site (South Pasadena/Los Angeles).

Our family grew up using the Arroyo playground, softball and soccer fields and walking and running on the local trails. While I regularly run on the bridal paths next to the LA river, the proposed project has never felt welcoming or safe to enter - instead it looks like an overgrown area dominated by weeds and blackened palms from fires.

I look forward to the planned project to add more trails, some seating and to create a more inviting location with native habitat restoration.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Dr. Zelina Medina Organization*: Resident

Email*: [REDACTED] Phone*: [REDACTED]

Meeting: _____ Date: _____

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Comments

I support efforts to improve local water resources; and I have concerns regarding the project.

- What is the timeline for the project, start and completion date?
 - Will access to the walking and equestrian trails be restricted during construction or after completion? If so, how long, and what alternative routes will be provided?
 - What studies have been conducted to assess impacts on wildlife, and vegetation? And what will be done to protect during and after construction?
- How will noise, dust, lighting, and construction traffic be managed to reduce impacts on wildlife and residents?
- What are the plans to prevent erosion, sediment runoff, water contamination, and damage to surrounding habitat?
 - Will any mature trees or native vegetation be removed? If so, what restoration plans are proposed?

My family, members of our community, and the wildlife that live in this area all rely on and enjoy this habitat. Access to safe, healthy green spaces is essential for community well-being, recreation, mental health, and environmental stewardship. I strongly encourage project planners to preserve public access whenever possible, minimize environmental impacts, and provide clear communication to residents throughout the project.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Dale Zapata Organization*: Resident

Email*: [REDACTED] Phone*: [REDACTED]

Meeting: Regional Oversight Committee Meeting Date: Jun 10

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Comments

My name is Dale Zapata and I live in Pasadena. I am speaking in SUPPORT of the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project.

These projects do something simple and smart. They capture storm drain runoff that would otherwise carry pollution downstream, clean it, and let it soak back into the ground to refill our local groundwater. That is water we get to keep and use here at home, instead of buying more imported water we cannot count on.

I also want to speak to the land itself. Both sites are closed to the public right now. They have held unhoused encampments and have caught fire more than once. These are not safe, open spaces that we are giving up. They are spaces we have not been able to use. This project clears out invasive weeds and trees, brings back native habitat for our pollinators and migrating birds, and adds walking paths and trails so families can finally enjoy these places.

To neighbors who have concerns, I hear you. Change near our waterways deserves a careful look. But this is not a loss of green space. It is a chance to turn neglected, hazardous land into clean water, restored habitat, and trails we can all walk. The opposition asks us to protect these sites. The best way to protect them is to bring them back to life.

I urge you to support the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project. Thank you for your time.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Pilar Reynaldo Organization*: Garvanza Resident
Email*: [REDACTED] Phone*: [REDACTED]
Meeting: ROC Date: 6/10/26

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Comments

ROC Board Members,

I am writing in support of the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Projects. Both projects provide a multitude of benefits for Pasadena, South Pasadena & Los Angeles.

Currently the San Rafael site is inaccessible to the public and choked w/ weeds. Not only will this site clean storm drain runoff, infiltrate, and release cleaned water into the channel. The Native plant restoration will greatly benefit our Migratory birds and pollinators. The new paths will allow for users of the arroyo to enjoy, learn and observe the constructed wetlands.

The South Pasadena site, is currently a non functioning constructed wetlands which is home to unhoused people who have started many fires which presents serious danger to the San Pascual neighborhood and the neighboring Horse stables.

This site not only Cleans storm drain runoff and infiltrates it will send cleaned storm drain runoff to the golf course ending the use of Potable water which is not sustainable. This site is currently scary, full of charred Palms and invasive weed trees. Improving the site will be a massive improvement to the area which is surrounded by spaces where families recreate, this will add to the areas family friendly environment and create beautiful dry weather flow swales with another Native habitat restoration.



Public Comment Form

Name*: Casey Law Organization*: South Pasadena NREC
Email*: [REDACTED] Phone*: _____
Meeting: Regional Oversight Committee June 10, 2026 Date: 6/8/2026

☒ LA County Public Works may contact me for clarification about my comments

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Comments

I am a commissioner in the South Pasadena Natural Resources and Environmental Commission and am writing to express my support for the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project.

South Pasadena has an urgent need to manage and clean its storm water and runoff. For decades, our water has flowed off our city streets and into the LA River and Pacific Ocean. As it flows, it cultivates bacteria, collects heavy metals, and spreads garbage. For too long, the lack of treatment has poisoned our ocean and the people who live along the river.

My commission recently gave up pursuing another large project for storm water capture under Huntington Blvd, as the commercial supplier no longer provides the required technology. If South Pasadena cannot proceed with the Arroyo Seco project, then it is at risk of non-compliance with legal requirements to treat urban runoff and storm water. As a small city, we cannot afford to pay the fines for non-compliance and it would financially ruin us.

The Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project is a sensible approach to managing runoff and the parkland adjacent to the water. By passing water through an infiltration basin, we can clean and recharge the aquifer. The use of an existing parkland is reasonable, given the benefit to our waterway. Though some tree removal and replacement is required, the plan will largely improve the natural space through new plantings and improving access for our community.

Measure W is a lifeline for our natural spaces and the South Pasadena and Pasadena are fortunate to have been awarded one of its grants. Please support South Pasadena and Pasadena as they act on the moral and legal obligation to clean their surface runoff.



Public Comment Form

Name*: GEORGE MARTINEZ Organization*: SO. PAS RESIDENT
Email*: [REDACTED] Phone*: [REDACTED]
Meeting: REGIONAL OVERSIGHT COMM. Date: 6/10/2026

- ☐ 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.

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(ex. "Public Comment: USGR 4/8/20").

Comments

I AGREE THAT THE ARROYO SECO WATER PROJECT BE COMPLETED. THIS IS LONG OVER DUE.

George Martinez
6/10/2024

To review the guidance documents and for more information, visit www.SafeCleanWaterLA.org



Name*: Sean
Email*: [REDACTED]
Meeting: Regional

☒ LA County Pub
*Per Brown Act,
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Comments



Public Comment Form

Name*: Jean Burke Martinez

Organization*: So. Pas Resident

Email*: [REDACTED]

Phone*: [REDACTED]

Meeting: Regional Oversight Committee

Date: 6-10-26

☒ LA County Public Works may contact me for clarification about my comments

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Comments

I am in favor of the Arroyo Seco
Water Reuse project moving forward,
count me as a yes vote.

Jean Burke May
6/9/26

Clara M Solis



June 9, 2026

SAFE CLEAN WATER

SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov

Regional Oversight Committee

Dear Regional Oversight Committee:

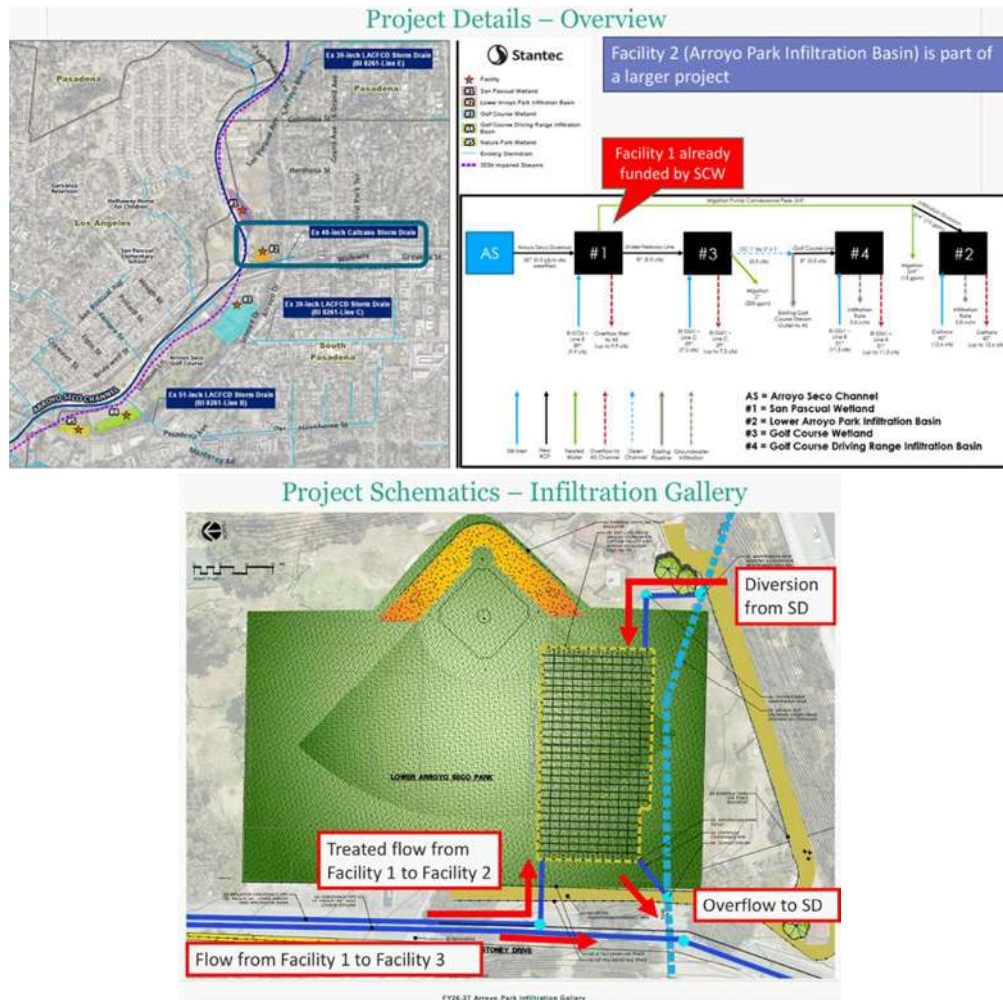
Request for Review, Investigation and Direction to Upper LA River WASC

**REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF MARCH 4, 2026 VOTE PROVIDING FUNDING FOR FACILITY 2
(ARROYO PARK INFILTRATION BASIN) AND FOR COUNTY COUNSEL ADVICE TO BODY ON
POSSIBLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, MISINFORMATION and PUBLIC FUNDS use:**

At the May 6th, 2026, Safe, Clean Water Program Watershed Area Steering Committee Upper Los Angeles River, the minutes for March 4, 2026 included this statement:

Chair Torossian clarified that the Arroyo Park Infiltration Gallery Project is distinct from the Arroyo Seco San Rafael Treatment Wetlands Project and shared that the WASC did not discuss funding for the Arroyo Seco-San Rafael Treatment Wetlands Project during this meeting.

This statement was made after concerns by Committee members regarding the San Pascual project and comments made by South Pasadena proponents and committee members. However, the presentation documents show that water is coming from the San Pascual project. So, the project is not distinct.



Request for Investigation: Possible Misrepresentation/Misinformation Re re Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project also know as San Rafael wetland project.

I ask for an investigation on if the Upper LA River WASC was misled by proponents of this project in stating benefits such as reducing reliance on Potable water. We ask that this Oversight Board determine how the Arroyo Seco golf course in South Pasadena is currently watering its golf course. How much water is being diverted from the Arroyo Seco to the Golf Course? How have they been watering it for the past five years? Public Record Act requests show no water currently being paid for to water the Golf Course. So how is it being watered?

It appears that the project will not reduce the need for potable water, since the golf course is already pumping water up from the Arroyo Seco for use to water their golf course. This project is nothing but a ploy by project proponents to guarantee that this use of water continues in perpetuity

Depending on the Day, circumstances we are constantly hearing different things by project proponents.

From Annual Report FY23-24:

“The following is a description of the Water Supply Benefits and a summary of how funds have been allocated to achieve SCW Program Goals as articulated in Chapter 18.04 of the Code for the prior year:

From the Annual Report 22-23

Benefits section, 2.1 Water Quality Benefits 2.1 Water Quality Benefits

“..an existing diversion will be upgraded and will divert flow from the channel and direct it to a natural wetlands which will utilize filtration to treat the water.”

2.2 Water Supply Benefits *The following is a description of the Water Supply Benefits and a summary of how funds have been allocated to achieve SCW Program Goals as articulated in Chapter 18.04 of the Code for the prior year: The second component of this project will divert water from the Arroyo Seco channel downstream from San Rafael creek and direct it to a treatment wetlands which will use infiltration to enhance groundwater supplies. **A portion of the flow will also be used to offset the irrigation needs of the adjacent golf course.** The design of a stormwater harvesting unit is underway and will be installed at the Arroyo Seco Golf Course. **Treated water from the project will be diverted to the harvesting unit and will capture and treat a portion of the water to be used for irrigation of the golf course to reduce the need for potable water.”***

From documents on your website:

Annual Report 21-22

2 BENEFITS 2.1 Water Quality Benefits

*“In addition, downstream of the confluence of San Rafael creek to the Arroyo Seco channel, an existing diversion will be upgraded and will divert flow from the channel and direct it to a **natural wetlands** which will utilize filtration to treat the water.*

2.2 Water Supply Benefits

Project Feasibility Study Application

*The second component of this project will divert water from the Arroyo Seco channel downstream from San Rafael creek and direct it to a treatment wetlands which will use infiltration to enhance groundwater supplies. **A portion of the flow will also be use to offset the irrigation needs of the adjacent golf course.***

The San Pascual site is located further downstream along the Arroyo Seco channel where wet and dry weather runoff will be directed from Pasadena, and South Pasadena areas north of Arroyo Park and San Pascual Stables. The San Pascual site is bounded by the Arroyo Seco channel to the south and San Pascual Ave to the north and the proposed treatment wetlands will reutilize and expand the capacity of an existing dike and existing irrigation system. The project has the potential to provide significant water quality benefits for multiple jurisdictions due to the significant drainage area size (5,005 acres), location of the adjacent creek and channel, and available development space. The project will capture and treat 100% of the dry-weather flows in accordance with the ULAR LRS.

The San Pascual site has an existing dike that currently receives dry weather flows and is closed off with limited access due to dense vegetation. The dike was historically used to provide irrigation water to the nearby park but has since been abandoned due to pollutants fouling the distribution system.

4.1 Water Supply Nexus pg 25

Description of onsite use by the project: This project could utilize captured flows to offset onsite irrigation needs at the nearby Arroyo Park and Arroyo Seco Golf Course.

Further, NO PUBLIC MEETINGS ARE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED RE THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT ONLY PRIVATE MEETINGS WITH PUBLIC PROPONENTS some of which have received funding from SAFE Clean Water.

From: [Jens Jonason](#)
To: [DPW-SafeCleanWaterLA](#)
Subject: Public comment: ROC June 10, 2026
Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2026 5:06:43 PM
Attachments: [SCWP-ROC-Public-comment-Jens-Jonason-2026-06-10.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear SCWP,

Attached is the PDF form with my public comments for the June 10, 2026 ROC meeting. I intend to appear in person and deliver an abbreviated version of this comment.

The comment is also attached in-line in this email with improved formatting:

To: Safe Clean Water Program — Regional Oversight Committee
From: Jens Jonason, resident, Garvanza (Northeast Los Angeles)
Re: Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project (ASWRP) and Los Angeles Council File 26-0777
Date: June 10, 2026

Members of the SCWP ROC,

I'm a resident of Garvanza, a neighborhood in the City of Los Angeles, and a board member of the Highland Park Neighborhood Council. I'm writing as an individual; these views are my own and not those of HHPNC.

My comment concerns the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project (ASWRP), which is led by Pasadena with South Pasadena, and is primarily funded by SCWP using Measure W funds.

The project is facing a significant challenge at its San Pascual site.

At issue is a half-acre parcel of City of Los Angeles–owned land that the project needs to lease to site essential pollutant-removing equipment.

The challenge is this: in response to opposition from a small group of neighbors, a single Los Angeles Councilmember has introduced a resolution ([Council File 26-0777](#)) that would place the entire City of Los Angeles on record against the project indefinitely by blocking the project's lease of the half-acre parcel — preventing two cities from meeting a state-mandated obligation to address a regional water-quality problem.

The resolution does not meaningfully engage the merits of the project, and it offers no substantive analysis to support its claims about environmental or tribal impacts. It would prematurely foreclose the in-progress EIR and deny the City Council the full record it needs to make an informed decision — one with regional consequences.

The resolution is now before the LA City Council's *Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee*. If advanced, it proceeds to the full City Council for possible adoption.

My request to this Committee, its staff, and the public:

Contact Rules Committee members and submit public comments to [Council File 26-0777](#) and urge them to hold the resolution in committee, or decline to advance it, until the City has produced and evaluated the analyses a decision of this scale requires — including reports from the Department of Recreation and Parks, the City Attorney, the Bureau of Engineering, LA Sanitation, and the CAO and CLA — and the EIR process is complete. The City of Los Angeles should develop the record before it goes on record.

The matter is urgent. The Rules Committee may take up this resolution with short notice and move it forward at any time.

Members of the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee:

- Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Rules Chair, CD8 — Councilmember.Harris-Dawson@lacity.org
- Nithya Raman, Rules Vice Chair, CD4 — contactCD4@lacity.org
- Katy Yaroslavsky, CD5 — Councilmember.Yaroslavsky@lacity.org
- Hugo Soto-Martínez, CD13 — Councilmember.Soto-Martinez@lacity.org
- John Lee, CD12 — Councilmember.Lee@lacity.org

Resolution movers:

- Councilmember Ysabel Jurado, CD14 (introduced CF 26-0777) — Councilmember.Jurado@lacity.org
- Councilmember Imelda Padilla, CD6 (seconded CF 26-0777) — councilmember.padilla@lacity.org

Respectfully,
Jens Jonason



Public Comment Form

Name*: Virginia Gladwin Organization*: _____
Email*: Phone*:
Meeting: The Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project Date: 6/9/2026

☒ LA County Public Works may contact me for clarification about my comments

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Comments

I am writing in support of the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project.

In our current dry climate we need all the water we can get! The Arroyo Seco does not currently meet the State water quality standards. This project reverses this trend.

I am asking that this project goes through to both beautify the area, provide walking opportunities for the community, along with better shade from the native trees that will be planted. This project will divert the dry water weather flow into this nature-based treatment system before it reaches the channel.

Fining the cities who do not implement the project also needs to happen. They also need to take responsibility for the needed water filtration that this project provides.

As a local resident and someone who uses the Arroyo Seco regularly, I strongly support this project

Name (original name)
Zoom Host (Sophia Catalan | Stantec)
ROC Room (Sophia Catalan | Stantec)
2nd device (Luz SP-Interpreter)
Luz - TLC Spanish Interpreter (Luz - Spanish & Portuguese Conference Interpreter)
Interpreter- 2nd device- Main floor (Gabi 2nd device)
Interpreter -Gabriela M. (GabrielaM.)
Executive Clerk (Mike Antos (Stantec))
Melina Watts
EW
Azucena Ramirez
Clara
JonPaul Sarro
Mei-Lin Hanna (JLHA)
Vicki Friesen
JCramsie
wendy bugarin
Emily Ng (Stantec)
Alexia Skrbic
Bruce Reznik, Los Angeles Waterkeeper
Jose L Escajeda LACFCD
Jenny Chau
David Lee
James Carpenter
Rachel Wittenberg, Stantec, she/her
Grey Crisanto
Jason Pepito - SCW
Leeor Alpern (UCLA)
Pablo Forni
David Coghiet
Hannah Daum
Linh Tran
AKim
Lexi Davin- Dudek
Haley Lawton
Jenna Cobb
Jillian Benci-Woodward, Brown and Caldwell
JCramsie
Darin Seegmiller (Santa Clara River WASC)
Bruce Reznik, Los Angeles Waterkeeper
Ravi Sankaran, Del Rey NC
Melina Watts
Jim Cluxton
Amelia Milano

Shannon Heffernan, Dudek - LSGR Watershed Coordinator

Rafael Piamonte - LA County

Pilar Reynaldo

Mark Nguyen

Eric Bonilla

Craig Doberstein (Herrera)

Magdeline

Melina Watts

Jessica Forte

Justin Jones

Constance Villalvazo

Lauren, LAANE (she/they)

Grey Crisanto

Mike Scaduto

Amanda Begley, SCR (TreePeople)

Erika Chan

Brenda Ponton, Woodard & Curran

Alexander Iglesias

Nancy Shrodes (she/her)

Yael Pardess

Susie Santilena

Conor Mossavi

Timothy Lim

SArredondo

Darin Seegmiller (Santa Clara River WASC)

Dee Corhiran

Jens Jonason

Michael Ku

Lauren, LAANE (she/they)

359692

Lauren, LAANE (she/they)

Leila Talebi

Veronica Carrillo

Jose Castro

Kevin Te

WL

Clara

Larry Tran

Josh Kashapata

Mayra Cabrera - LACPW

Buddy Barreras - SCWP Staff

amada

Robert

Valeria Mena

Alonso Garcia
Kristina Kreter
Jason Casanova, Council for Watershed Health
Leslie Friedman Johnson
Dawn Petschauer
SArredondo
JonPaul Sarro
Rebecca Kaliff (Paradigm)
Luis Perez
Drew Ready
Chris Vong (LASAN)
Haley Bauer
Jack Mikesell
Nancy Shrodes (she/her)
Jessica Forte, Principal Engineer
Emily Finnegan
Eric Wilson
SArredondo
SArredondo
Andrew Kim
Lisa Kim
Chloe Ebright (JLHA)
Jessica Forte, Principal Engineer
Darlia Wong
Alexander Iglesias
Timothy Brown
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OCRAMER
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Pablo
Daniella Andrade
Drew Ready
Kevin Te
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James Carpenter