

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



Thursday, May 28, 2026
1:30pm – 3:30pm
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)
*Mayra Martinez Yasumura, Los Angeles County Parks & Recreation (Agency)
Manuel D. Perez, Valley Vista Services, Inc (Community)
David Marquez, Urban Semillas (Community)
Drew Ready, Council for Watershed Health (Community)
Stephanie Sandoval, Duarte (Municipal)
Nicholas Delgado, Diamond Bar (Municipal)
Stephanie Ryan, Glendora (Municipal)
Mathew Hudson, Industry (Municipal), Chair
Eddie Chan, Irwindale (Municipal)
Julie Carver, Pomona (Municipal)
Kara Plourde, Los Angeles County (Municipal)
James Cortes, Day One (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

Committee Members Not Present:

Tom Love, Upper San Gabriel District (Agency), Vice-Chair
Justin Nakano, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster (Agency)
Jeanette Flores, Charter Oak Unified School District (Community)

*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 March 26, 2025

Public Works staff presented the meeting minutes from March 26, 2025. Member Julie Carver motioned to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Member Manuel Perez. The WASC voted to approve the meeting minutes with 10 votes in favor, 3 votes in abstention, and 0 votes opposed.

Upper San Gabriel River

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)

Meeting Minutes



3) Committee Member and Program Updates

Member Drew Ready expressed desire to review the last meeting, in which the Committee deliberated on the SIP, and inquired whether meeting recordings are available for WASC members. Public Works shared that Committee Members can request recordings via email.

Public Works staff provided updates, noting:

- At the March 8, Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) meeting, the ROC voted to approve the 2026 Biennial Progress Report for submission to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. The Report, along with public comments received, is available on the [Adaptive Management webpage](#). The Biennial Progress Report highlights both the Program's accomplishments and the substantial effort required to implement and scale such a large, complex initiative.
- All nine WASCs have recommended a Fiscal Year 2026-27 (FY26-27) Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP). Similar to previous years, Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program staff will prepare the SIP Transmittal Reports to the ROC on behalf of WASCs. This year, the SIP Transmittal Report is being updated based on prior feedback and will start incorporating the released Initial Watershed Plans to better communicate SCW Program progress. The ROC is scheduled to discuss FY26-27 SIPs at its June and July meetings. The USGR SIP is scheduled for the July 8 ROC meeting. If the ROC has comments, USGR will discuss the SIP again at its July meeting.
- The 2026 Call for Projects for the FY27-28 SIP will begin accepting applications in June, with a submission deadline of July 31, 2026. Call for Projects Info Sessions were held on May 13 and May 14. Presentation slides, Q&A documents, and recordings have been posted on the [SCW Program website](#).
- Public Works staff sent emails on March 12th to Regional Program project developers to remind them to submit 12-month lapsed funding extension requests per the conditions of the Regional Program Transfer Agreement. Projects that were disbursed funds during FY20-21 have the potential to lapse funds. If a Project had not expended funds equal to that year's disbursement as of the FY24-25 Annual Report, they were sent the reminder email. Four extension requests were received by the March 31 deadline, one of which was in the USGR Watershed Area (Encanto Park Stormwater Capture Project). Public Works staff reviewed four extension requests and provided notifications that 12-month extensions were granted at end of April 2026. There is one USGR Scientific Study with potential to lapse funds (San Gabriel Valley Regional Confirmation of Infiltration Rates) but they have not submitted a request.
- The recording of the November 2025 Science Symposium has been posted on the [Science Symposium event webpage](#). As signaled at the recent Science Symposium, the SCW Program aims to preserve the integrity of the Scientific Studies Program and ensure only eligible and scientifically rigorous studies are accepted. The Next Symposium is anticipated to be held in April 2027.
- All twelve Watershed Coordinator contracts are now fully executed. The Watershed Coordinators are continuing to provide services under the new agreements.
- The Q4 2026 Funding Report has been posted to the SCW Program website under the [Resources tab](#). In support of Public Works, the Regional Coordination team prepares quarterly funding reports that include a high-level overview of recent funding policy highlights and a funding matrix that shares currently active and upcoming funding opportunities that may be relevant to SCW Program projects. Los Angeles County Public Works staff and the Regional Coordination team are actively tracking activity to better understand impacts to future funding.
- The SCW Program Municipal Program Team is now offering project support services to all cities with an updated City Services Contract with Los Angeles County Public Works. Current available services are limited to initial project planning and project design. Cities interested in utilizing these services or seeking clarification can contact the SCW Municipal Program at

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



SCWPMunicipal@pw.lacounty.gov. Additional details on the scope and availability of future services will be shared in the coming months.

4) Watershed Coordinator Updates

Watershed Coordinator James Cortes shared a summary of recent Watershed Coordinator activities, Community Strengths and Needs Assessment (CSNA) results, community feedback, and upcoming Watershed Coordinator activities. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Upon inquiry, Watershed Coordinator Cortes confirmed that direct outreach to municipalities is underway.

5) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

Chair Hudson and Member Kara Plourde disclosed attending a project status meeting with Public Works regarding the Bassett High School Stormwater Capture Multi-Benefit Project.

Member Ready disclosed attending a meeting about the timing of grading for the Pedley Spreading Grounds Project.

6) Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

7) Presentations and Discussion Items

a) Key Areas of Interest for 2026 Call for Projects

Emily Ng (Stantec, Regional Coordination) and Public Works staff presented the Round 8 (FY27-28) Call for Projects USGR WASC Priorities. Full presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program Website](#).

Ng asked the WASC what future funding priorities they would like to emphasize to project applicants. The Committee expressed desire to see applicants bring at least 20-25% leveraged funding, noting that minimal leveraged funding requirements would allow more cities with lower staff capacity to submit projects. The Committee also expressed desire to require applicants to demonstrate a good faith effort to pursue leveraged funding and that information on resources such as grant writers be made available to applicants.

Ng asked the WASC what actions or efforts would constitute sufficient demonstration of a good faith effort to pursue leveraged funding. Member Sandoval suggested that demonstration could be providing copies of documentation proving that the project applicant has applied to other funding sources. Member Perez added that demonstration could include funding sources beyond grants (e.g., Caltrans funding), letters of intent, or other proof that project applicants are pursuing outside funding opportunities. Member Ready commented that other WASCs have had to deny certain projects due to lack of funds and highlighted the importance of pursuing leveraged funding so that the SCW Program can fund as many projects as possible.

Several Members representing municipalities confirmed that they use municipal funds to hire grant writers to secure leveraged funding.

Ng asked the WASC if they would consider setting different requirements for small municipalities, NGOs, or community-based organizations that are applying for SCW Regional Program funding. Watershed Coordinator Cortes commented that the Technical Resources Program (TRP) process serves this purpose, and that project applicants who have feasibility studies funded as a TRP should have more capacity to pursue significant leveraged funding. Member Perez commented that small municipalities need support now as TRPs often take two to three years to develop.

In response to Committee Member comments expressing the difficulties of applying for grants with limited staff capacity, Ng asked the WASC about ways good faith effort can be demonstrated other than proof of

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



grant pursuit. Member Perez suggested that there be no leveraged funding requirements for small projects, but that demonstration of a good faith effort should be a minimum requirement for projects requesting a large amount of funding.

Member Sandoval asked if the current SCW Regional Program application process includes any questions about leveraged funding. Public Works staff clarified that the Projects Module has a dedicated section, specifically asking for types of leveraged funding, its status—between “in progress” and “money received”—description, and supporting documentation. Upon inquiry, Public Works staff clarified that the application asks the applicant to list other public agencies, municipalities, CBOs, or NGOs serving as Additional Project Collaborators. Members Marquez and Sandoval inquired whether questions on partnerships and potential partnerships can be consolidated under the leveraged funding section in the application and weighted higher in the Scoring criteria. Ng and Public Works staff responded that changes to the application will not be made this cycle but that these priorities will be signaled to project developers in the memo summarizing this conversation. Member Ready suggested that specific language be added to the application to indicate that leveraged funding will be strongly considered when approving projects. Member Sandoval commented that most applicants are aware of how difficult funding is, and funding is not being taken for granted. Members Perez and Carver expressed desire to not tie any leveraged funding percentage goal to the application and commented that a good faith effort requirement may increase overall leveraged funding percentages.

Ng asked the WASC about geographic areas where they would like to prioritize projects. Member Delgado expressed a desire to see the Watershed Coordinator work with municipalities that have not yet applied for SCW Regional Program funding or that lack resources to become project developers. Member Perez additionally recommended outreach to the Los Angeles County Parks Commission may be helpful to identify potential projects in underserved areas.

Ng asked the WASC what types of projects they would like to see and if there is anything that the WASC is not currently investing in that they would like to invest in in the future. Member Sandoval expressed hesitancy investing in new projects when it is already difficult to get projects in the queue built. Member Ready advocated for spreading grounds projects, which are low-cost projects that have large stormwater benefits and can include nature-based solutions.

Ng asked if there are any investments that the Committee feels are overrepresented. Member Carver commented that it would be difficult to make general prioritizations since different cities have different needs. Member Perez expressed an interest in small- to medium-sized projects that are easily replicable across the watershed. Member Marquez encouraged applicants to take advantage of good working relationships between cities to encourage collaboration on such projects. Member Carver commented on the State of California’s water conservation requirements for non-functional turf, and that it would be beneficial to get municipalities, companies, and communities involved in projects to assist in compliance.

Ng asked the WASC about potential Scientific Study topics that the WASC would like to prioritize. The Committee expressed interest in seeing more scientific studies related to operations and maintenance (O&M) and nature-based solutions that might serve future projects.

Ng asked the WASC for feedback on the SIP Deliberation workbooks that were provided to WASC Members for the recent SIP deliberation. The Committee expressed that the workbooks were useful for referencing details about projects and for organizing notes on projects. WASC Members requested that tabs, a digital copy, and quick reference summary table of projects be provided.

b) Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Area Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP)

Watershed Coordinator Cortes gave a presentation on the Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Area Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP). Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program Website](#).

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



Member Perez requested the SOEP be amended to include outreach to municipalities and unincorporated communities, especially those that have not submitted projects to the SCW Program.

8) Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

9) Voting Item

a) Approve the Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Area Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP) Contingent on Amendment

Member Perez motioned to approve the Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Area Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan, contingent on the amendment to add outreach to municipalities and unincorporated communities, especially those that have not submitted projects to the SCW Program, seconded by Member Marquez. The WASC voted to approve the item, with 13 votes in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 in abstention.

10) Items for Next Agenda

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

Items on the next agenda include:

- a) Upper San Gabriel River Project Prioritization and Selection Discussion for Populating the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Stormwater Investment Plan (if needed, based on Regional Oversight Committee comments)
- b) WASC Roles and Responsibilities
- c) Selection of Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-Chairs
- d) Regional Program Mid-Year Report Summary for FY25-26
- e) Summary of Submitted Infrastructure Program Projects, Technical Resources Program Project Concepts, and Scientific Studies for FY27-28

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 - MAY 28, 2026							
		Quorum Present				Voting Items (see meeting minutes for additional details)	
Member Type	Position	Member	Voting/ Present?	Alternate	Voting/ Present?	Approve 3/26/2026 Meeting Minutes	Approve the Updated Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Area 2026 Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP) contingent on amendment
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		Mayra Martinez Yasumura	x	Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Valley Vista Services, Inc	Manuel D. Perez	x			Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Urban Semillas	David Marquez	x			Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Council for Watershed Health	Drew Ready	x	Jason Casanova		A	Y
Community Stakeholder	Charter Oak Unified School District	Jeanette Flores					
Community Stakeholder							
Municipal Members	Duarte/Bradbury	Stephanie Sandoval	x	Kevin Kearney		A	Y
Municipal Members	Diamond Bar	Nicholas Delgado	x			Y	Y
Municipal Members	Glendora / Arcadia	Stephanie Ryan	x	Briget Arndell		Y	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	x	Rafael Piamonte		A	Y
Watershed Coordinator Non-Voting Member	Watershed Coordinator	James Cortes	x				
Total Non-Vacant Seats		16			Yes (Y)	10	13
Total Voting Members Present		13			No (N)	0	0
Agency		3			Abstain (A)	3	0
Community Stakeholder		3			Total	13	13
Municipal Members		7				Approved	Approved

Webex Attendees
Upper San Gabriel River WASC Meeting
May 28, 2026

Alynn Sun	James Carpenter - SCWP	Liana Poghosyan	Rafael Piamonte
Byron Mcconnell	Jason Jade Pepito - SCWP	Magdeline Hutton	USGR AV
Dusadee Corhiran - SCWP Presenter	Jenny Chau	Marisela Velasquez - SCW	kmoreno
Emily Ng (Regional Coordination)	Jillian Benci-Woodward, Brown and Cald	Mayra Cabrera - SCWP Facilitator	
Grey Crisanto	Lauren Marshall	Melanie Rivera	

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	
Christopher Lapaz	Sanitation Districts	Alternate	<i>C. Lapaz</i>
David Marquez	California Consulting, INC	Alternate	
Drew Ready	Council for Watershed Health	Primary	<i>Drew Ready</i>
Eddie Chan	Irwindale	Primary	
Francisco Guerrero	Sanitation Districts	Primary	
James Cortes	Day One	WC	<i>J-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	<i>Kara Plourde</i>
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	<i>Manuel D. Perez</i>
Mathew Hudson	Industry	Primary	<i>Mathew Hudson</i>
Mayra Martinez Yasumura	Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation	Alternate	
Nicholas Delgado	City of Diamond Bar	Primary	<i>Nicholas Delgado</i>
Rafael Piamonte	Los Angeles County	Alternate	
Stephanie Ryan	Glendora	Primary	<i>Stephanie Ryan</i>
Stephanie Sandoval	Duarte	Primary	
Tom Love	Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District	Primary	