

Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Meeting Minutes



Tuesday, September 1, 2026
1:00pm – 3:30pm
Culver City Hall – Patacchia Conference Room
9770 Culver Blvd, Culver City, CA 90232
WebEx Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Seta Marjanian, Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Agency)
*Augustine Han, West Basin Metropolitan Water District (Agency)
*Conor Mossavi, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (Agency)
*Brett Perry, Los Angeles City Sanitation and Environment (Agency)
*Darryl Ford, Los Angeles City of Recreation and Parks (Agency)
Rita Kampalath, Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office (Community)
Ion Cretu, PSOMAS (Community)
*Maggie Gardner, Los Angeles Waterkeeper (Community)
Josette Descalzo, Beverly Hills/West Hollywood (Municipal)
Sean Singletary, Culver City, (Municipal)
Roberto Perez, Los Angeles (Municipal)
*Blayne Sutton-Wills, Los Angeles (Municipal)
Mara Luevano, Los Angeles (Municipal)
Geremew Amenu, Los Angeles County (Municipal)
Joshua Carvalho, Santa Monica/Inglewood (Municipal)
Stephanie Gebhardt Rath, Heal the Bay (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)
*Vanessa Martinez, S. Groner Associates (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

Committee Members Absent

Gloria Medina, SCOPE (Community)
Zoe Cunliffe, Black Women for Wellness (Community)

*Committee Member Alternate
See attached sign-in sheet for full list of attendees.

1) Welcome and Introductions

Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works) Staff welcomed Committee Members of the Central Santa Monica Bay (CSMB) Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) and called the meeting to order. Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works) staff facilitated the roll call of Committee Members. A quorum was established.

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 5, 2026

Member Maggie Gardner motioned to approve the meeting minutes from May 5, 2026. Member Josette Descalzo seconded the motion. The Committee voted to approve the May 5, 2026 minutes with 10 votes in favor, 5 votes in abstention, and no votes in opposition (approved, see vote tracking sheet attached).

3) Committee Member & Program Updates

Watershed Coordinator Vanessa Martinez shared that she is stepping back as the main Watershed Coordinator; Megan Lent from S. Groner Associates will be the primary member. Watershed Coordinator Stephanie Gebhardt Rath notified the WASC that September 19th is International Coastal Cleanup Day. Heal the Bay (HTB) will be hosting volunteer opportunities at 60 sites across the County. Watershed

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Coordinator Gebhardt Rath noted that Members interested in tabling for their organization at the event should reach out to HTB by email.

Mike Antos (Stantec, Regional Coordination) shared that Tara Dales (Stantec, Regional Coordination) will assume primary responsibility for supporting the CSMB WASC on behalf of the Regional Coordination team.

Public Works shared Regional Program updates, noting:

- Current Community Stakeholder WASC terms are set to expire on December 31, and the Board of Supervisors (Board) will begin reappointments and appointments for vacancies in December 2026 or early 2027. Members of the public who meet the minimum requirements in the WASC Operating Guidelines and are interested in serving as a Community Stakeholder may fill out the online [Interest to Serve form](#) located on each WASC agenda and on the monthly Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program Implementation email.
- The SCW Program is updating the 2019 Watershed Area Steering Committee Operating Guidelines to clarify existing procedures, improve consistency across the Regional Program, and incorporate lessons learned from implementation. Proposed amendments were shared with all Committee Members on July 28, and Committee Members were asked to provide feedback on the proposed changes. Proposed amendments can be reviewed on the [event webpage](#).
- The Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) recommended approval of all nine Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) to the Board of Supervisors. The Board is anticipated to vote on approval of SIPs in Fall 2026.
- The 2026 Call for Projects for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027-2028 (27-28) Stormwater Investment Plan ended on July 31. Program wide, there were 15 Infrastructure Projects (IP), 11 Technical Resources Program (TRP) Project Concepts, and 12 Scientific Studies (SS) submitted for consideration. CSMB received one IP, one TRP, and five SS.

Member Gardner asked when the new WASC Operating Guidelines will go into effect and how WASC members and others will be alerted. Public Works staff shared that staff are currently gathering input. Once completed, the draft will need approval from the District Chief Engineer and then there will be a formal announcement. There is not yet a set timeframe for completion.

4) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

There were no ex parte communications.

5) Public Comment Period

Cyndi Hubach, President of the Silver Lake Reservoirs Conservancy, provided public comment on the challenges gathering documents to complete their SCW Program application. The Silver Lake Reservoirs Conservancy has been working on an application for their TRP project for the past two years. Hubach stated that, throughout the application process, Watershed Coordinators Martinez and Gebhardt Rath were very helpful. Hubach shared that this project has many letters of support from elected officials and community groups but has been unable to get a Letter of Non-Objection from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and LA Sanitation and Environment.

6) Presentations and Discussion Items

a) Regional Program Mid-Year Report Summary FY25-26

Nicole Wong (HDR) presented the Regional Program FY25–26 Mid-Year Report Summary. Slides can be found on the [SCW website](#).

Member Conor Mossavi thanked HDR for the presentation and mentioned that the photos of completed projects were very useful. Member Mossavi asked for clarification on how projects were determined to be

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in either the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) or Post-Construction Monitoring phase for this analysis. Antos clarified that a project enters the Post-Construction Monitoring Phase when its SCW funding concludes, at which point reporting requirements also change. Projects categorized under O&M are still receiving SCW program funds.

Member Mossavi asked what criteria HDR used to categorize certain schedule delays as 'critical'. Wong shared that all schedule delays are considered critical.

Upon inquiry, Antos clarified that the TRP spoken about during the public comment period was not included in the Regional Program FY25–26 Mid-Year Report Summary slides, as it has not been submitted nor approved. Member Descalzo asked how long the Imperial Highway Project could be delayed while retaining its awarded funds. Public Works staff noted that the Transfer Agreement provides projects five years to expend the funds, after which any remaining funds must be returned to the WASC. Kevin Ho (LA Sanitation and Environment), representing Imperial Highway, noted that the Project has experienced several delays but has begun design work and expects new expenditures soon.

b) WASC Roles and Responsibilities

Antos presented on the WASC Roles and Responsibilities. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW website](#).

Member Blayne Sutton-Wills asked when the Operating Guidelines update will become effective and if there are still opportunities to provide feedback. Public Works staff confirmed that there is still time to participate, noting that email communications from July contain more information on how to provide comments.

Member Descalzo asked whether there would be an orientation for incoming WASC Members. Public Works highlighted that an email is sent to new Members detailing information on the SCW Program. Watershed Coordinator Gebhardt Rath shared that the CSMB Watershed Coordinators could offer a new Member orientation if that would be of interest.

c) Summary of Submitted Infrastructure Program Projects for FY 27-28

Watershed Coordinators Gebhardt Rath and Martinez presented a summary of the submitted Infrastructure Program Projects for FY27-28. Presentation slides are also available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Upon inquiry, Public Works staff noted that projects are still undergoing completeness reviews and that only those deemed complete shall be advanced by the WASC to the Scoring Committee.

d) Selection of Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-Chairs

Member Seta Marjanian introduced herself to the WASC as a new Member stepping in for former Co-Chair Marcela Benavides. Member Marjanian expressed interest in Watershed Coordinator Gebhardt Rath's offer for an introductory WASC orientation. Member Marjanian expressed willingness to serve as Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-Chair for the Committee.

Member Brett Perry, Chair Susie Santilena's alternate, added that Chair Santilena was interested in continuing to serve as Vice-Chair or Co-Chair.

e) Central Santa Monica Watershed Area Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP)

Watershed Coordinators Gebhardt Rath, Martinez, and Lent presented on the CSMB FY26-27 Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP). [Presentation Slides](#) and the [SOEP](#) are available on the SCW Program website. At the end of the presentation, the Watershed Coordinators asked Members to share their priorities for Watershed Coordinator efforts.

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Member Mossavi expressed appreciation for the Watershed Coordinators and their outreach this past year, noting having encountered some of the Watershed Coordinators' staff at a community event. Member Mossavi expressed desire to see incoming projects, the WASC, and the Watershed Coordinators prioritize water supply in the next few years. Member Mossavi encouraged focus on onsite reuse, recycled water, and draining to a usable aquifer.

Member Sutton-Wills expressed interest in hearing more about what different school districts are doing in relation to water capture infrastructure. Watershed Coordinator Gebhardt Rath agreed to include the topic in future Watershed Coordinator Updates. Watershed Coordinator Martinez shared that the Watershed Coordinators are participating in an Urban Watershed Working Group meeting on September 2 focused on green schoolyards.

Member Roberto Perez noted that there are opportunity areas on the eastern side of the Watershed Area where fewer projects have been proposed. Member Perez requested that the Watershed Coordinators work to find people in that area interested in collaborating with municipalities on a project application.

Member Descalzo expressed interest in seeing a video montage of some of the completed projects that could be posted on the SCW website. Member Descalzo commented that such a video could help show the public and future applicants more about the SCW Program.

Member Geremew Amenu brought up that this WASC has funding limitations for the next one to two years and reminded the WASC and SCW staff that they should be encouraging project proponents to apply with leveraged funding.

Member Brett Perry expressed interest in greater communication between the WASC and TRP projects, particularly around project progress, funding updates, and ways that the WASC could better support TRPs. Watershed Coordinator Gebhardt Rath mentioned this could be a topic for a future WASC meeting.

7) Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

8) Voting Items

a) Send None, Some, or All Completed Feasibility Studies to the Scoring Committee

Member Gardner motioned to send all Feasibility Studies that have been deemed complete to the Scoring Committee for consideration. The motion was seconded by Member Mossavi and passed with 15 votes in favor, 0 opposed, 0 in abstention, and 0 absent at the time of vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

b) Selection of Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-Chairs

Member Descalzo motioned to approve the selection of Susie Santilena and Seta Marjanian as Co-Chairs. The motion was seconded by Member Sutton-Wills and passed with 15 votes in favor, 0 opposed, 0 in abstention, and 0 absent at time of vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

c) Approve the Central Santa Monica Watershed Area Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

Member Mossavi motioned to approve the CSMB SOEP. The motion was seconded by Member Gardner and passed with 15 votes in favor, 0 opposed, 0 in abstention, and 0 absent at the time of vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

9) Items for Future Agenda

- a) Community Strengths and Needs Assessment (CSNA) Annual Report Presentation
- b) Summary of Submitted Technical Resource Project Concepts and Scientific Studies

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c) FY27-28 Applicant Presentations

Member Descalzo requested that the Committee receive a status update when the Fern Dell Restoration Project has passed its completeness check and asked if the WASC could assess the SIP tool funding scenario earlier than currently scheduled for this round. Public Works staff responded that after the Project is reviewed by the Scoring Committee, an early demo of the SIP tool, which incorporates the FY 27-28 applications, can be provided.

10) Adjournment

Public Works staff thanked the Committee Members and the public for their participation and adjourned the meeting.. See the [SCW Program Website](#) for more information.

CENTRAL SANTA MONICA BAY WASC MEETING - September 1, 2026									
Member Type	Organization	Quorum Present				Voting Items			
		Primary Member	Attendance: In-person ("x" for present)	Alternate Member	Attendance: In-person ("x" for present)	Vote to approve May 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes	Vote to Send all feasibility studies that have been deemed complete to the Scoring Committee for consideration	Vote for Susie Santilena and Seta Marjanian for Co-Chairs of the CSMB WASC	Approve the Updated Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area FY26-27 Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP)
Agency	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	Seta Marjanian	x	Daniel Bradbury		a	y	y	y
Agency	West Basin Municipal Water District	Matthew Veeh		Augustine Han	x	a	y	y	y
Agency	Los Angeles City Water & Power	Art Castro		Conor Mossavi	x	a	y	y	y
Agency	Los Angeles City Sanitation and Environment	<u>Susie Santilena</u>		Brett Perry	x	a	y	y	y
Agency	Los Angeles City Recreation & Parks	Cathie Santo Domingo		Darryl Ford	x	y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office	Rita Kampalath	x	Rebecca Ferdman		y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	PSOMAS / Business Sector	Ion Cretu	x	Andrew Nickerson		y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	SCOPE	Gloria Medina		Tanya Borja					
Community Stakeholder	Los Angeles Waterkeeper	Bruce Reznik		Maggie Gardner	x	y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Black Women for Wellness	Zoe Cunliffe		Tianna Shaw-Wakeman					
Municipal Members	Beverly Hills / West Hollywood	Josette Descalzo	x	Matthew Magener		y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	Culver City	Sean Singletary	x	Javier De La Cruz		y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	Los Angeles	Roberto Perez	x			y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	Los Angeles	Rafael Prieto		Blayne Sutton-Wills	x	a	y	y	y
Municipal Members	Los Angeles	Mara Luevano	x	Virginia Wei		y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	Los Angeles County	Geremew Amenu	x	Lara Awad		y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	Santa Monica / Inglewood	Joshua Carvalho	x	Anna Groehnert		y	y	y	y
Watershed Coordinator	Heal the Bay	Stephanie Gebhardt Rath	x	Alexia Skrbic					
Watershed Coordinator	SGA Marketing	Megan Lent		Vanessa Martinez	x				
Total Non-Vacant Seats		17			Yay (Y)	10	15	15	15
Total Voting Members Present		15			Nay (N)	0	0	0	0
Agency		5			Abstain (A)	5	0	0	0
Community Stakeholder		3			Total	15	15	15	15
Municipal Members		7				Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved

Attendees
Central Santa Monica Bay WASC Meeting
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Ali Sharbat	Jason Jade Pepito	Naomi Diep
Andrew Gray	Jenny Chau	Nicole Wong (HDR)
Angineh Shahnazarian	Jessica Yang (LASAN)	Omar Abdelhadi
Ashlyn Nance	Katie Harrel (CWE)	Pablo Forni - LACPW
Ben O'Neal	Kevin Ho (LASAN)	Pearl Azizian
Brianna Datti	Kristina Moreno	Raymond Lam (LASAN)
Call-in User_1	Lara Awad	Salma Kamal (Woodard & Curran)
Call-in User_2	Larry Tran - LACPW	Sean Phan (LASAN)
Call-in User_3	Linet Khechatoorian	Sharad Robertson
Christopher Vong	Lisa O'Fiesh	Sia Arguello, Heal The Bay
Daniel Lee (Geosyntec)	Marisol Ibarra	Tara Dales
Daniel Bradbury	Michelle Reed	Tim Brown, HEC
Felicia Yin	Mike Scaduto	Uriel Cobian
Grey Crisanto - LACPW	Mike Stoevers	Wendy Dinh
Haley Bauer	Nan Jia - CWE	Zulia Linares (JLHA)
James Carpenter - SCWP		

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COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN: **SEPTEMBER 1, 2026**



Member Type	Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Role	Signature
Agency	Seta Marjanian	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	P	<i>[Signature]</i>
Agency	Daniel Bradbury	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	A	
Agency	Matthew Veeh	West Basin Metropolitan Water District	P	
Agency	Augustine Han	West Basin Metropolitan Water District	A	<i>[Signature]</i>
Agency	Art Castro	Los Angeles City Water & Power	P	
Agency	Conor Mossavi	Los Angeles City Water & Power	A	<i>[Signature]</i>
Agency	Susie Santilena	Los Angeles City Sanitation and Environment	P	
Agency	Brett Perry	Los Angeles City Sanitation and Environment	A	<i>[Signature]</i>
Agency	Cathie Santo Domingo	Los Angeles City Recreation & Parks	P	
Agency	Darryl Ford	Los Angeles City Recreation & Parks	A	<i>[Signature]</i>
Community Stakeholder	Rita Kampalath	Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office	P	
Community Stakeholder	Rebecca Ferdman	Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office	A	
Community Stakeholder	Ion Cretu	PSOMAS / Business Sector	P	<i>[Signature]</i>
Community Stakeholder	Andrew Nickerson	PSOMAS / Business Sector	A	
Community Stakeholder	Gloria Medina	SCOPE	P	
Community Stakeholder	Tanya Borja	SCOPE	A	
Community Stakeholder	Bruce Reznik	Los Angeles Waterkeeper	P	
Community Stakeholder	Maggie Gardner	Los Angeles Waterkeeper	A	<i>[Signature]</i>
Community Stakeholder	Zoe Cunliffe	Black Women for Wellness	P	
Community Stakeholder	Tianna Shaw-Wakeman	Black Women for Wellness	A	

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COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN: **SEPTEMBER 1, 2026**



Member Type	Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Role	Signature
Municipal Member	Josette Descalzo	Beverly Hills	P	
Municipal Member	Matthew Magener	West Hollywood	A	
Municipal Member	Sean Singletary	Culver City	P	
Municipal Member	Javier De La Cruz	Culver City	A	
Municipal Member	Roberto Perez	Los Angeles	P	
Municipal Member	Rafael Prieto	Los Angeles	P	
Municipal Member	Blayne Sutton-Wells	Los Angeles	A	
Municipal Member	Mara Luevano	Los Angeles	P	
Municipal Member	Virginia Wei	Los Angeles	A	
Municipal Member	Geremew Amenu	Los Angeles County	P	
Municipal Member	Lara Awad	Los Angeles County	A	
Municipal Member	Joshua Carvalho	Santa Monica	P	
Municipal Member	Anna Groehnert	Inglewood	A	
Watershed Coordinator	Stephanie Gebhardt Rath	Heal the Bay	WC	
Watershed Coordinator	Alexia Skrbic	Heal the Bay	A	
Watershed Coordinator	Megan Lent	SGA Marketing	WC	
Watershed Coordinator	Vanessa Martinez	SGA Marketing	A	

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PUBLIC SIGN-IN: September 1, 2026



First Name	Last Name	Municipality/Organization	Email Address
Cynthia	Hubach	Silver Lake Reservoir Conservancy	
Anna	Groehnert	City of Inglewood	
Augustine	Han	West Basin	