

South Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)

Meeting Minutes



Wednesday, August 19, 2026

12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Torrance Civic Center, Human Resources Department

3231 Torrance Blvd, Torrance, CA 90503

WebEx Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Seta Marjanian, LA County Flood Control District (Agency)

*Tammy Hierlihy, West Basin Municipal Water District (Agency)

Arthella Vallarta, Water Replenishment District (Agency)

*Christopher Lapaz, LA County Sanitation District (Agency)

*Darryl Ford, Los Angeles Recreation and Parks (Agency)

Margie Hoyt, Resident (Community)

Craig Cadwallader, Surfrider Foundation South Bay Chapter (Community), Chair

Caroline Orija, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Community)

Elizabeth Sala, Resident (Community)

Marjorie Tsuma, Resident (Community)

Susie Santilena, Los Angeles (Municipal)

*Lara Awad, Los Angeles County Public Works (Municipal)

*Ryan Beste, City of Torrance (Municipal)

Doug Krauss, EWMP: Beach Cities (Municipal), Vice Chair

Miller Zou, EWMP: Dominguez (Municipal)

Vanessa Hevener, EWMP: Peninsula (Municipal)

Alexia Skrbic, Heal the Bay (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

Committee Members Not Present:

Gilbert Marquez, City of Carson (Municipal)

*Committee Member Alternate

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

1) Welcome and Introductions

Craig Cadwallader, Chair of the South Santa Monica Bay (SSMB) 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 and instructions on public comment submissions.

Public Works staff introduced new Committee Members, including Seta Marjanian (LA County Flood Control District), Arthella Vallarta (Water Replenishment District), Marjorie Tsuma (Resident), Ryan Beste (City of Torrance), and Alexia Skrbic (Heal the Bay, Watershed Coordinator).

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 20, 2026

Chair Cadwallader presented the SSMB WASC meeting minutes from May 20, 2026. Member Darryl Ford motioned to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Chair Cadwallader. The WASC voted to approve the meeting minutes with 7 votes in favor, 5 in abstention, 0 opposed and 4 absent at the time of voting (approved, see vote tracking sheet attached).

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3) Committee Member and Program Updates

There were no Committee Member updates.

Public Works staff provided Program Updates, noting:

- Current Community Stakeholder terms are set to expire on December 31, and the Board of Supervisors (Board) will begin reappointments and appointments for vacancies 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 SCWP Implementation email.
- The Regional Oversight Committee 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 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 2026 Call for Projects for the FY27-28 Stormwater Investment Plan ended on July 31. Program-wide, there were 15 Infrastructure Program (IP) Projects, 11 Technical Resources Program (TRP) Project Concepts, and 12 Scientific Studies (SS) submitted for consideration. SSMB received one IP Project, one TRP Project Concept, and six SS.
- The Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) meeting was held on August 12, where the ROC received updates on the Call for Projects, Regional Program Mid-Year Report Summaries, Scoring Revision Process, and Post-Construction Monitoring Guidance. Updates can be viewed on the in the [News and Updates webpage](#) on the SCW Website.

Strategic Advancement Section (SAS) staff provided updates, noting:

- As part of Adaptive Management efforts, revisions to the Feasibility Study Guidelines and Scoring Criteria for the 2027 Call for Projects are currently underway. The SCW Program 2027 Scoring Revision Survey closed on July 19, 2026, which gathered input to evaluate and improve the Guidelines and Criteria.
- Post-Construction Monitoring Guidance has been posted to the [SCW Program website](#). Updates are underway in the Reporting Module to reflect this new guidance and provide support for sustained project performance and the achievement of Program Goals.
- Since the launch of the Community Strengths & Needs Assessment (CSNA) Survey, 2,100 new survey responses have been collected. 160 responses have been collected for the SSMB Watershed Area.
- SAS staff can be reached for questions at watershedplanning@pw.lacounty.gov.

Member Susie Santilena noted a discrepancy between the wording of the WASC Operating Guidelines and the Feasibility Study Requirements; the WASC Operating Guidelines mention that TRP applicants must submit a Letter of Non-Objection from the municipality and/or the underlying fee owner of the site in which the project is being proposed, while the Feasibility Study Guidelines require a Letter of Support from the relevant municipality. Member Santilena asked for clarity regarding the requirement. Public Works staff noted that the original Guidelines only required a municipal Letter of Non-Objection and land fee owners were recently added to the requirements to ensure land fee owners can give input on property matters. Public Works staff noted that they will clarify the wording and requirements.

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Nancy Shrodes (Watershed Coordinator, Heal the Bay) asked whether all Community appointments are set to expire in December, or only those that have already served the full three-year term. Public Works staff clarified that all Community appointments are set to expire at the upcoming December date.

4) Ex Parte Communication Disclosure

There were no ex parte communication disclosures.

5) Watershed Coordinator Updates

Watershed Coordinator Alexia Skrbic presented an overview of recent community outreach efforts and events, including popup engagement events, a quarterly newsletter, door knocking and canvassing, attending community events, and meeting with local community and tribal groups.

Chair Cadwallader commended Heal the Bay's efforts with Coastal Clean-up Day and thanked the Watershed Coordinators for their work.

6) Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

7) Discussion

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

Elyssa Lawrence (HDR) presented on the Regional Program FY25-26 Mid-Year Report Summary. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program website](#).

Watershed Coordinator Shrodes asked for more information about the Carson Stormwater and Runoff Capture Project at Carriage Crest Project in Carson, noting that presentation slides listed the Project as in construction, rather than operations and maintenance (O&M). Watershed Coordinator Shrodes asked for clarification as to whether the Project's original scope was construction or O&M. Lawrence noted that the Mid-Year Report indicated that the Project is not operational and has yet to start expending O&M funds. Public Works staff noted that they would investigate and follow up later.

b) WASC Roles and Responsibilities

Ryanna Fossum (Stantec, Regional Coordination) presented on the WASC Roles and Responsibilities. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW website](#).

Member Lara Awad asked what happens when a Project Modification Request (PMR) is submitted that is inconsistent with the SIP, but the project in question has already received funding. Public Works staff clarified that the WASC would determine whether they want to support the requested modifications; if not, the applicant must either discard the requested modifications or lose future earmarked funds. From there, if necessary, the SCW Program would communicate with the Developer to retrieve previously distributed funds.

c) Selection of Chair, Vice-Chair, or Co-chairs

Chair Cadwallader expressed interest in continuing as Chair for the coming year and shared that Vice-Chair Doug Krauss expressed the same. Member Santilena expressed support for the nomination of Chair Cadwallader as Chair and Vice-Chair Krauss as Vice-Chair.

d) Summary of Submitted Infrastructure Program Projects for FY27-28

Watershed Coordinator Skrbic and Shrodes presented a summary of the submitted Infrastructure Program Projects for FY27-28. Presentation slides are available on the [SCW Program Website](#).

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Chair Cadwallader asked Vice-Chair Krauss whether the Herondo Subwatershed Joint Distributed Infiltration and Green Street Project expects to face opposition from the Hermosa Beach City Council. Vice-Chair Krauss shared that no City Council opposition has emerged yet, and minimal public opposition. Vice-Chair Krauss noted that the public has appreciated related outreach efforts.

e) South Santa Monica Bay FY26-27 Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP)

Watershed Coordinator Skrbic presented on the SSMB FY26-27 Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP). [Presentation Slides](#) and the [SOEP](#) are available on the SCW Program website.

Member Awad asked what the 'assistance' portion of the TRP program entails and how project developers can connect with the Watershed Coordinator. Watershed Coordinator Skrbic noted that the Watershed Coordinator is part of the Technical Assistance Team associated with approved TRPs. The Technical Assistance Teams are made up of experts who develop Feasibility Studies and support the project lead. Shrodes added that applicants are also encouraged to reach out to Watershed Coordinator prior to a TRP submission to receive guidance through the application process.

8) Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

9) Voting Items

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

Member Santilena motioned to approve the selection of Chair Cadwallader and Vice-Chair Krauss. The motion was seconded by Member Margie Hoyt and passed with 16 votes in favor, 0 opposed, 0 in abstention, and 0 absent at time of vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

b) Send All Completed Feasibility Studies to the Scoring Committee for Consideration

Member Hoyt motioned to send all completed Feasibility Studies to the Scoring Committee for consideration. The motion was seconded by Member Ford and passed with 16 votes in favor, 0 opposed, 0 in abstention, and 0 absent at time of vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

c) Approve the South Santa Monica Bay FY26-27 Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP)

Vice-Chair Krauss motioned to approve the updated SSMB Watershed Area FY26-27 SOEP. The motion was seconded by Member Caroline Orija and passed with 16 votes in favor, 0 opposed, 0 in abstention, and 0 absent at time of vote (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

10) Items for Next Agenda

- a) Community Strengths and Needs Assessment (CSNA) Annual Report Presentation
- b) Summary of Submitted Technical Resources Project Concepts and Scientific Studies for FY27-28
- c) FY27-28 Application Presentations

11) Adjournment

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

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 16, 2026
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
See [SCW website](#) for meeting details.

		Quorum Present				Voting Items			
Member Type	Organization	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	Approve the May 20, 2026 SSMB WASC Meeting Minutes	Approve the FY26-27 SSMB WC Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan	Approve Craig Cadwallader as Chair and Doug Krauss as Vice-Chair for the FY27-28 Cycle	Send all completed Feasibility Studies to the Scoring Committee for Consideration
Agency	LACFD	Seta Marjanian	x	Daniel Bradbury		a	y	y	y
Agency	West Basin MWD	Matthew Veeh		Tammy Hierlihy	x	y	y	y	y
Agency	Water Replenishment District	Arthella Vallarta	x	Jenn Swart		a	y	y	y
Agency	LA County Sanitation District	Dave Pierce		Christopher Lapaz	x	a	y	y	y
Agency	LA Recreation & Parks	Cathie Santo Domingo		Darryl Ford	x	y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Resident	Margie Hoyt	x			absent at vote	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Surfrider Foundation South Bay Chapter	Craig Cadwallader	x	Mary Simun		y	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	Caroline Orija	x			absent at vote	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Resident	Elizabeth Sala	x			a	y	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Resident	Marjorie Tsuma	x			y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	Carson	Gilbert Marquez		Roland Jen					
Municipal Members	Los Angeles	Susie Santilena	x	Virginia Wei		y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	LA County Public Works	Geremew Amenu		Lara Awad	x	y	y	y	y
Municipal Members	Torrance	Joshua Soliz		Ryan Beste	x	a	y	y	y
Municipal Members	EWMP: Beach Cities	Doug Krauss	x	Geraldine Trivedi		absent at vote	y	y	y
Municipal Members	EWMP: Dominguez	Miller Zou	x	Clifford Shum		absent at vote	y	y	y
Municipal Members	EWMP: Peninsula	Vanessa Hevener	x	Jeannie Naughton		y	y	y	y
Watershed Coordinator	Heal the Bay	Alexia Skrbic	x	Nancy Shrodes	x				
Total Non-Vacant Seats		17			Yay (Y)	7	16	16	16
Total Voting Members Present		16			Nay (N)	0	0	0	0
Agency		5			Abstain (A)	5	0	0	0
Community Stakeholder		5			Total	12	16	16	16
Municipal Members		6				Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved

Other Attendees	
ANTHONY VIDAL	Jessica Yang (LASAN)
Ali Sharbat	Katie Harrel (CWE)
Alynn Sun	Kenny Khov-Chea
Ana Rivera (LASAN)	kmoreno
Andrew Gray	Lisa Kim
Ashlyn Nance (she/her)	Luis
Ashwini	Mehrad Kamalzare (CPP)
Ben O'Neal	Meliya Soller
brett p	Michael Ku
Call-in User_1	Mikael Purne
Carlos Aldape (LASAN)	mike
Chris Vong (LASAN)	Naomi Diep
Deanna Fraley	Raymond Lam (LASAN)
Elyssa Lawrence (HDR)	Roland Jen
Eric Bonilla	Rosie S
Farzad Kasmaei	Sabrina Yang
Geraldine Trivedi	Sia Arguello, Heal The Bay
James Carpenter - SCWP	Sophia Catalan
Jason Jade Pepito - SCW SAS	SSMB AV
Jenn Howell, City of Lomita	Zulia Linares (JLHA)
Jenny Chau	

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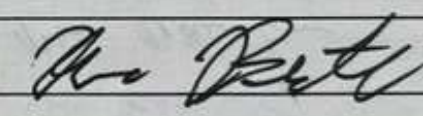
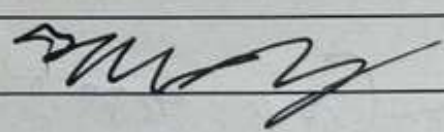
COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization		Signature
Seta Marjanian	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	Primary	<i>[Signature]</i>
Daniel Bradbury	Los Angeles County Flood Control District	Alternate	
Matthew Veeh	West Basin MWD	Primary	
Tammy Hierlihy	West Basin MWD	Alternate	<i>Tammy Hierlihy</i>
Arthella Vallarta	Water Replenishment District	Primary	<i>M. Vallarta</i>
Jenn Swart	Water Replenishment District	Alternate	
Dave Pierce	LA County Sanitation Districts	Primary	
Christopher Lapaz	LA County Sanitation Districts	Alternate	<i>[Signature]</i>
Cathie Santo Domingo	LA Recreation & Parks	Primary	
Darryl Ford	LA Recreation & Parks	Alternate	<i>[Signature]</i>
Margie Hoyt	Resident	Primary	<i>Margie Hoyt</i>
Craig Cadwallader	Surfrider Foundation South Bay Chapter	Primary	<i>[Signature]</i>
Mary Simun	Surfrider Foundation South Bay Chapter	Alternate	
Caroline Orija	LA County Public Health	Primary	<i>[Signature]</i>
Elizabeth Sala	Resident	Primary	<i>Elizabeth Sala</i>

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Member Name	Municipality/ Organization		Signature
Marjorie Tsuma	Resident	Primary	
Gilbert Marquez	Carson	Primary	
Roland Jen	Carson	Alternate	
Susie Santilena	Los Angeles	Primary	
Virginia Wei	Los Angeles	Alternate	
Geremew Amenu	Unincorporated County	Primary	
Lara Awad	Unincorporated County	Alternate	
Joshua Soliz	Torrance	Primary	
Ryan Beste	Torrance	Alternate	
Doug Krauss	EWMP: Beach Cities	Primary	
Geraldine Trivedi	EWMP: Beach Cities	Alternate	
Miller Zou	EWMP: Dominguez	Primary	
Clifford Shum	EWMP: Dominguez	Alternate	
Vanessa Hevener	EWMP: Peninsula	Primary	
Jeannie Naughton	EWMP: Peninsula	Alternate	

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Member Name	Municipality/ Organization		Signature
Alexia Skrbic	Heal the Bay	Primary	