

Safe, Clean Water Program

Central Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Meeting Minutes:

Tuesday, November 5, 2019

1:00pm - 3:00pm

LA County Public Works Headquarters

900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra 91803

Attendees

Committee Members Present:

Charles Herbertson (Culver City)

Jeff Camp (LA)

Liz Crosson (LA)

Katie Mika (LA Bureau of Sanitation)

Rita Kampalath (LA County Chief Sustainability)

Paul Alva (LA County)

Carolina Hernandez* (LA County Flood Control District)

Bruce Reznik (LA Waterkeeper)

Delon Kwan (LA Department of Water & Power)

Alysen Weiland* (PSOMAS)

Neal Shapiro (Santa Monica)

Gloria Walton (SCOPE)

E.J. Caldwell (West Basin)

Hany Demitri* (West Hollywood)

*Committee Member Alternate

See attached sign-in sheet for full list of attendees

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Lafferty of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District) welcomed the committee members and members of the public, shared his excitement for this phase of implementation, and thanked everyone for their dedication to the Safe, Clean Water Program (Program) and regional resilience. Mr. Lafferty introduced Mr. Allen of the District as the meeting facilitator.

All committee members made self-introductions and shared one reason the Program was important to them. Members of the public introduced themselves as well.

2. Discussion of Safe, Clean Water Program Goals, Schedule and Timeline

Mr. Frary (District) provided a summary of the Program, including the goals, core themes, funding distribution, governance, and timeline. Mr. Frary emphasized the unique responsibility and opportunity before the committee as well as the importance of thinking regionally, inclusively, and collaboratively in order to best steward public funds. Mr. Frary also provided a brief overview of the Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area and reviewed the requests made to-date of the WASC members to ensure all members were up to date on communications, requests, and next steps. He committed District staff to the committee to support all efforts going forward.

3. WASCs Roles and Responsibilities

Mr. Allen reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the WASC, according to the WASC Operating Guidelines, which include but are not limited to the development of Stormwater Investment Plans, quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports, and Watershed Area Regional Program Progress Reports.

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4. Selection of Chair (Voting Item)

Mr. Allen asked committee members to vote, with a show of hands, whether they would like to elect both a Chair and Vice Chair for the committee. Members voted in favor of both a Chair and Vice Chair, where the top vote-getter would serve as Chair and the other would serve as Vice Chair.

Nominees for the position of Chair were: Liz Crosson (LA) and Charles Herbertson (Culver City). Both Ms. Crosson and Mr. Herbertson provided a short justification for why they should be considered for this role. Following the remarks from both nominees, the committee members voted via paper ballots and included their own names on the ballot for the record.

Ms. Crosson (9 votes) was elected as the Chair of the Central Santa Monica Bay WASC, and Mr. Herbertson (5 votes) was elected as the Vice Chair. It was announced that District would finish facilitating the initial meeting and that the chairs would assume their roles immediately thereafter. The District is committed to coordinate with the newly elected chairs to coordinate future agendas and details.

5. Selection of Next Meeting Location (Voting Item)

Mr. Allen noted that a series of future meeting dates, times, and venues have been arranged by the District as a resource to ensure the committee has time and space to develop the first Stormwater Investment Plan. Details can be changed any point later on (provided Brown Act requirements are met) and will be coordinated by the Chair(s) and District staff as applicable. Mr. Allen indicated the planned vote was to simply determine whether to hold the current location (and by extension, pencil in the tentative dates/times) or to request the new Chair organize a new location instead.

The venue offered was:

Location: LA County Public Works Headquarters
900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra 91803

Mr. Allen solicited comments and feedback from committee members. Mr. Allen asked committee members to vote, with a show of hands, whether they would like to keep the venue offered.

Committee members voted in favor of an alternate venue (9 votes to 5 votes). Mr. Frary noted that District staff will work with the Chair in scheduling the next meetings at different venues.

Mr. Reznik of the LA Waterkeeper asked whether the meeting agenda for the upcoming meeting will be standardized among the different committees. Mr. Frary confirmed that the agenda will be standardized among the committees by the District and coordinated with the Chair.

Ms. Walton of SCOPE asked about the schedule of upcoming meetings. Mr. Frary confirmed that meetings are scheduled once a month and twice a month from January to March in anticipation of project submission. The District will coordinate with the Chair to determine what is best for the committee.

6. Break

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7. Call for Projects for FY 20-21 and FY 21-22

Mr. Frary provided an overview of the open Call for Projects which began on October 15, 2019 and has two upcoming deadlines. The deadline for projects to be considered for funding in Fiscal Year 20-21 is December 15, 2019, and the deadline for projects to be considered for funding in Fiscal Year 21-22 is July 31, 2020. Mr. Frary summarized the three types of submissions that will be reviewed for completeness and brought to the committees for consideration (concepts to develop into feasibility studies in the Technical Resources Program, completed feasibility studies for the Infrastructure Program, and scientific studies for the scientific studies program). He explained that concepts, projects with completed feasibility studies, and/or scientific studies can be submitted via an online module, which will generate a project summary sheet for submittal to the District. More information about the Call for Projects and how to apply can be found at www.SafeCleanWaterLA.org and in the most recent Program update email, as well as at upcoming public information sessions in November. Mr. Frary requested that all members share the Call for Projects information with their contacts.

8. Open Discussion / Public Comment Period

Mr. Allen opened the public comment period.

Mr. Alva of the Los Angeles County asked about the information sessions for Call for Projects. Mr. Frary confirmed that information sessions are scheduled starting mid-November.

Ms. Hernandez of the District asked about the development of meeting agenda. Mr. Frary noted that agenda is drafted by the District and then sent to the Chair for input. Any suggested agenda items can be sent to either the District or the Chair.

A member of the public asked whether all scored projects will be shared with the Committee. Mr. Frary confirmed that committee members will have access to view all submitted projects but only the ones on Stormwater Investment Plan will be shared with the Regional Oversight Committee. The score will also be broken down into different categories.

9. Meeting Adjourned

Mr. Allen thanked the committee members and public for their time and participation and adjourned the meeting.
