

# Safe, Clean Water Program

Lower San Gabriel River

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)

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## Meeting Minutes:

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

3:00pm - 5:00pm

City of Lakewood, Maple Room

5000 Clark Ave. Lakewood, CA 90712

## Attendees:

### Committee Members Present:

Julian Juarez (LA County Flood Control District)  
Kevin Wattier (Central Basin )  
Lyndsey Bloxom\* (Water Replenishment District)  
Kristen Ruffell (Sanitation Districts)  
Stephen Scott (City of Long Beach)  
Dan Knapp (Conservation Corps of Long Beach)  
Adam Galia (Resident)

Mark Stanley (Rivers Mountains Conservancy)  
Mike O'Grady (Cerritos)  
Delfino Consunji (Downey)  
Lisa Ann Rapp (Lakewood)  
Melissa You (Long Beach)  
Noe Negrete (Santa Fe Springs)  
Vicki Smith (Whittier)

\*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 next phase of implementation, and thanked everyone for their dedication to the Safe, Clean Water Program (Program) and regional resilience. Mr. Lafferty introduced Mr. Kim (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 Lower San Gabriel River 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. Kim 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. Frary 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: Melissa You (Long Beach), Mark Stanley (Rivers Mountains Conservancy) and Lisa Ann Rapp (Lakewood). Ms. You, Mr. Stanley, and Ms. Rapp provided a short justification for why they should be considered for this role. Following the remarks from all nominees, the committee members voted via paper ballots and included their own names on the ballot for the record.

**Ms. Lisa Ann Rapp (10 votes) was elected as the Chair of the Upper San Gabriel River WASC, and Ms. Melissa You (4 votes) was elected as the Vice Chair.** It was announced that LACFCD would finish facilitating the initial meeting and that the chairs would assume their roles immediately thereafter. LACFCD committed to coordinate with the newly elected chairs to coordinate future agendas and details.

#### 5. Selection of Next Meeting Location (Voting Item)

Mr. Frary 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. Frary 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.

The venue offered was:

Location: Burns Community Center, 2nd floor  
5510 Clark Avenue  
Lakewood, CA 90712

Mr. Frary solicited comments and feedback from committee members. Dan Knapp offered the City of Long Beach as a potential meeting location.

**Committee members voted via paper ballots in favor (13 votes to 1 vote) of the default venue: Burns Community Center, 2nd floor, 5510 Clark Avenue Lakewood, CA 90712**

#### 6. Break

#### 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

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sheet for submittal to the District. More information about the Call for Projects and how to apply can be found at [www.SafeCleanWaterLA.org](http://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. Public Comment / Open Discussion**

Ms. Ruffell asked how long-term project expenses would be managed. Mr. Frary clarified that Project applicants are prompted to consider and include project costs, schedule, monitoring plan, and operations and maintenance in the online Project Module. The WASC's can then request clarification from the Project applicant, if deemed necessary, and decide how long-term project expenses are funded in the Stormwater Investment Plan.

Mr. Wattier asked if unused funds at the end of the fiscal year can be carried over to subsequent years. Mr. Frary confirmed that Project recipients can carry over uncommitted SCW Program Funds for up to five years.

Ms. Rapp asked if funds are returned to the same WASC if a funded project is not completed due to unforeseen circumstances. Mr. Frary confirmed that if the recipient is unable to expend the approved funding as described in the SIP, lapsed funds will be re-allocated to the same WASC.

Mr. Consunji asked if there is a monetary cap to the WASCs recommended programming. Mr. Frary explained that the WASC Operating Guidelines recommends the WASC to consider projects and programs totaling only 50% of the current budget year for the subsequent four years to remain fluid/open for revisions. The actual amount of available revenue for subsequent years is unknown and subject to change each year due to exemptions, credits, and appeals. Other projects or project concepts may become available that were not ready for consideration in prior years. Contingencies for programmed projects may be required and/or change. The 50% monetary cap for the four subsequent years is recommended, but not required and is at the discretion of the WASC.

Mr. Frary opened the public comment period. No members of the public wished to comment.

## **9. Meeting Adjourned**

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

Lower San Gabriel River  
Watershed Area Steering Committee Meeting  
October 29, 2019



Municipality/ Organization	Member Name	Email Address	Signature
Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment	Thalia Campos	thalis887@gmail.com	
Central Basin	Kevin Wattier	kevinw@centralbasin.org	<i>K Wattier</i>
Cerritos	Rebecca Scott	rscott@cerritos.us	
Cerritos	Mike O'Grady	mograd@cerritos.us	<i>Mike O'Grady</i>
City of Long Beach Parks and Recreation	Stephen Scott	Stephen.Scott@longbeach.gov	<i>Stephen Scott</i>
City of Long Beach, Parks, Recreation and Marine Department	Sharon Gates	Sharon.Gates@longbeach.gov	
Conservation Corps of Long Beach	Kayla Slatten	kkellyslatten@cclb-corps.org	
Conservation Corps of Long Beach	Dan Knapp	dknapp@cclb-corps.org	<i>Dan Knapp</i>
Downey	Dan Mueller	dmueller@downeyca.org	<i>Dan Mueller</i>
Downey	Delfino Consunji	dconsunji@downeyca.org	<i>Delfino Consunji</i>
FCD	Carolina Hernandez	CHERNANDEZ@dpw.lacounty.gov	
FCD	Julian Juarez	JJUAREZ@dpw.lacounty.gov	<i>Julian Juarez</i>
Friends of the LA River	Marissa Christiansen	marissa@folar.org	
La Mirada	<del>Mark Stowell</del> <i>MARIANNA</i>	mstowell@cityoflamirada.org	<i>Mark Stowell</i>
Lakewood	Konya Vivanti	kvivanti@lakewoodcity.org	<i>Konya Vivanti</i>

Lower San Gabriel River  
Watershed Area Steering Committee Meeting  
October 29, 2019



Municipality/ Organization	Member Name	Email Address	Signature
Lakewood	Lisa Ann Rapp	lrapp@lakewoodcity.org	<i>Lisa Ann Rapp</i>
Long Beach	Alvin Papa	Alvin.Papa@longbeach.gov	
Long Beach	Melissa You	Melissa.You@longbeach.gov	<i>Melissa You</i>
Norwalk	Millie Khuu	mkhuu@norwalkca.gov	
Norwalk	Julian Lee	jlee@norwalkca.gov	
Resident	Adam Galia	agalia81@gmail.com	<i>Adam Galia</i>
Rivers Mountains Conservancy	Joseph Gonzalez	Jgonzalez@rmc.ca.gov	<i>Joseph Gonzalez</i>
Rivers Mountains Conservancy	Mark Stanley	mstanley@rmc.ca.gov	
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership	Michelle Yanez	myanez@sgvpartnership.org	
Sanitation Districts	Mike Sullivan	msullivan@lacsds.org	<i>Mike Sullivan</i>
Sanitation Districts	Kristen Ruffell	kruffell@lacsds.org	<i>Kristen Ruffell</i>
Santa Fe Springs	Noe Negrete	noenegrete@santafesprings.org	<i>Noe Negrete</i>
Water Replenishment District	Lyndsey Bloxom	lbloxom@wrds.org	<i>Lyndsey Bloxom</i>
Water Replenishment District	Diane Gatza	dgatza@wrds.org	
Whittier	Kyle Cason <i>Vicki Smith</i>	kcason@cityofwhittier.org	<i>Vicki Smith</i>

# Watershed Area Steering Committee Meeting

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

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