

Safe, Clean Water Program

North Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Meeting Minutes:

Thursday, March 12, 2020
10:00am - 12:30pm
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 91302

Attendees

Committee Members Present:

David Pedersen (LVMWD)
Dave Roberts (LVMWD)
Madelyn Glickfeld (UCLA)
Cung Nguyen (LA County Flood Control District)
David Rydman (LA County – Waterworks District)
Tevin Schmitt (WCFVC)

Kirsten James (Resident)
Alex Farassati (Calabasas)
Joe Bellomo* (Hidden Hills)
Bruce Hamamoto (LA County)
Shea Cunningham (Malibu)

Committee Members Not Present:

Doug Marian (CA Plumbing & Mechanical)
Chad Christensen (MRCA)
Jessica Duboff (LA Area Chamber of Commerce)

Nathan Hamburger (Agoura Hills)
Jessica Arden (Westlake Village)
Katy Yaroslavsky (LA County Supervisor District 3)

*Committee Member Alternate

See attached sign-in sheet for full list of attendees

1. Welcome and Introductions

David Pedersen, chair of the North Santa Monica Bay WASC, called the meeting to order.

All committee members made self-introductions, and quorum was established.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 27, 2020

The District provided a copy of the meeting minutes from the previous meeting.

Dave Roberts made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Cung Nguyen seconded the motion. The Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes (unanimous).

3. Committee Member and District Updates

Kirk Allen provided updates from the District, noting: a public draft of the fund Transfer Agreement is now open for review, and will close on April 7; the second-round call for projects will close on July 31; release of statement of qualifications is expected the first week of April, with solicitations due in late May.

David Pederson noted that a meeting of all WASC chairs took place to discuss: development of the Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs); to share potential challenges each of the WASCs are facing; and to share information about other WASCs.

4. Public Comment Period

No public comments received.

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5. Discussion Items

a) Ex Parte Communications Disclosure

No members had ex parte communications to disclose.

b) Feasibility Study Guidelines – Project Scoring Criteria Concerns

The committee discussed concerns with how the project scoring criteria made it a challenge to apply for funding within the NSMB watershed. Members suggested criteria be updated to accommodate watersheds that are unable to provide stormwater supply benefits. Madelyn Glickfeld volunteered to provide written update recommendations for the scoring criteria and suggested that a recommendation to update scoring criteria be added to the agenda to the next WASC meeting.

c) Discuss protocol for initial WASC review of new Infrastructure Program projects prior to submission to the Scoring Committee for future rounds of Call for Projects.

Kirk Allen provided a summary of the WASC role that allows committee members to have a preliminary discussion and preview projects before they are scored. Some projects may not fit the goals of the SCW Program, or the goals of the Watershed Area and may be held from scoring.

The Committee discussed challenges with how projects are unable to be modified after submission and scoring. Suggestions were proposed to allow some level of flexibility to modify project submissions to meet requests by the WASCs, or to allow applicants to take a smaller portion of SCW funding than was originally requested.

d) Discuss regional project ideas and partnerships with Caltrans and Metro for the NSMB Watershed Area

Madelyn Glickfeld noted that this item should be a working item for all members to foster partnerships with outside agencies to develop multi-benefit partner projects. The Committee discussed potential partnership agencies that may be reached out or invited to attend the NSMB WASC meetings to consider SCW partner projects.

6. Voting Items

a) Designate an allocation of \$100,000 for Watershed Coordinator services in the Technical Resources Program budget of the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Stormwater Investment Plan for the NSMB Watershed Area

Alex Farassati made a motion to approve the voting item. Madelyn Glickfeld seconded the motion.

The Committee discussed the time commitment provided by the Watershed Coordinator and how a half time position would be utilized for the NSMB Watershed Area.

The Committee voted to approve the voting item (unanimous).

b) Consideration of whether to fund the NSMB portion of the Scientific Studies Program submittal, Regional Scientific Study to Support Protection of Human Health through Targeted Reduction of Bacteriological Pollution, in the budget of the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Stormwater Investment Plan for the NSMB Watershed Area.

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The committee discussed potential concerns and issues with the Bacteriological Pollution study. Concerns were raised with the technical capabilities of the project applicant to conduct the study, as well as concerns with the potential of the study reducing regulatory requirements. Madelyn Glickfeld suggested that the WASC focus on pilot projects over these types of scientific studies for the NSMB Watershed Area.

Travin Scmitt made a motion to reject the voting item. Madelyn Glickfeld seconded the motion to reject the voting item.

The Committee voted to reject the voting item:

- In Favor (9)
 - Joe Bellomo
 - David Pedersen
 - Dave Roberts
 - Madelyn Glickfeld
 - Cung Nguyen
 - David Rydman
 - Tevin Schmitt
 - Kirsten James
 - Bruce Hamamoto
- Opposed (0)
- Abstain (2)
 - Shea Cunningham
 - Alex Farassati

c) Confirm final Fiscal Year 2020-21 Stormwater Investment Plan for the NSMB Watershed Area and approve submission to the Regional Oversight Committee for review.

Madelyn Glickfeld made a motion to approve the voting item. Dave Rydman seconded the motion.

The Committee discussed how fund phasing will work for the first year and future year funding for development of the SIP. David Pederson requested that the zero-dollar allocations for the NSMB SIP should include a note that additional work will be conducted next year to develop a 5-year SIP.

The Committee voted to approve (unanimous).

7. Items for next agenda

The Committee requested recommendations and comments for updates to the scoring criteria be provided on the next meeting agenda.

Madelyn Glickfeld requested that a municipal report on intent to apply for the second round of projects be added on the next meeting agenda.

8. Next meeting duration

The committee decided to keep the meeting duration the same.

9. Adjournment

David Pedersen thanked the committee members and public for their time and participation and adjourned the meeting.