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# Safe, Clean Water Program Watershed Area Steering Committee Upper San Gabriel River

**Date** Monday, May 18, 2020  
**Time** 1:30pm – 3:30pm  
**Location** WebEx Meeting – See below or SCW website for WebEx Meeting details

## WebEx Meeting Details

Committee members and members of the public may participate by joining the WebEx Meeting below. Please refer to the [Video Conferencing-Public Guidelines](#) available on the Safe, Clean Water website for additional information.

### Join via WebEx (recommended)

Meeting number: 261 039 810

Password: PawGHN6wq34

<https://lacountydpw.webex.com/lacountydpw/j.php?MTID=med44f7dd7c4c315de53f64cd07ee1578>

### Join by phone

+1-213-306-3065 United States Toll (Los Angeles)

Access code: 261 039 810

## Public Comment

Phone participants and the public are encouraged to submit public comments (or a request to make a public comment) to [SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov). All public comments will become part of the official record.

Please complete the [Comment Card Form](#) available on the Safe, Clean Water website and email to [SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov) by at least 5:00pm the day prior to the meeting.

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Requests for accommodations may be made to:  
[SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov](mailto:SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov) or by telephone, to 833-ASK-SCWP at least three work days in advance of the meeting

Supporting documentation will be available on the Safe, Clean Water website at [www.safecleanwaterla.org](http://www.safecleanwaterla.org)



## Agenda:

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
- 2) Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 5, 2020
- 3) Committee Member (including ex parte communication) and District Updates
- 4) Public Comment Period
- 5) Discussion and Voting Items:
  - a) Discussion of project rankings
  - b) Populate the Stormwater Investment Plan planning tool
  - c) Public Comment Period
  - d) **[Voting item]** - Confirm final Stormwater Investment Plan
- 6) Items for next agenda
- 7) Adjournment

**Next Meeting (Tentative) : Monday, June 1, 2020**

**1:30pm – 3:30pm**

**WebEx Meeting – See SCW website for meeting details**

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# Safe, Clean Water Program

Upper San Gabriel River

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



## Meeting Minutes:

Monday, May 4, 2020

1:30pm-4:30pm

WebEx Meeting

## Attendees:

### Committee Members Present:

Julian Juarez (LA County Flood Control District)

Tom Love (Upper San Gabriel District)

Kelly Gardner (Main San Gabriel Basin)

Kristen Ruffell (Sanitation Districts)

Mark Glassock\* (Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation)

Bob Huff (Huff Strategies)

Debbie Enos (Watershed Conservation Authority)

Ed Reyes (Ed P. Reyes & Associates)

Wesley Reutimann\* (Active SGV)

John Beshay (Baldwin Park)

Amanda Hamilton (Bradbury)

Alison Sweet (Glendora)

Joshua Nelson (Industry)

Paul Alva (LA County)

Julie Carver (Pomona)

Lisa O'Brien (La Verne)

### Committee Members Not Present:

Brian Urias (Former USGVMWD Board Member)

\*Committee Member Alternate

See attached WebEx Usage report for the full list of attendees

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

The District staff conducted a roll-call of Committee members, and with a majority present, quorum was established. Mr. Alva, the Chair of the Upper San Gabriel River WASC, called the meeting to order.

Mr. Alva welcomed the committee members and the public attendees. Mr. Kim (District) went over the various WebEx housekeeping items for both the Committee members and the general public's participation and discussed the process for public comments.

## 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 24, 2020

The District uploaded a copy of the meeting minutes from the February 24<sup>th</sup> meeting on the SCW website. Mr. Alva asked the committee members for comments or revisions. The committee had no comments. Mr. Bob Huff motioned to approve the meeting minutes as presented, with Mr. Joshua Nelson seconding this motion.

**The Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes from February 24, 2020 (unanimous).**

## 3. Committee Member and District Updates

Mr. Kevin Kim (District) provided a brief update on the Fund Transfer Agreements (FTAs). The public notice period for FTAs ended on April 21<sup>st</sup>. The District received over 50 comment letters and emails. SCW staff is working with County Counsel on addressing comments that were received. The FTAs are expected to go to the Board of Supervisors in June.

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Mr. Kim provided a brief update on the new timeline. All WASCs are encouraged to complete their Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) by late May or Early June. The Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) is anticipated to meet in June to review and provide recommendations to the WASCs on their SIPs. Mr. Kim also provided an update on the Watershed Coordinators and that SCWP Staff is working with our contracts division to release the solicitation (Request for Statement of Qualifications) sometime in June.

Mr. Alva asked about the disbursement of Municipal program funds, approval of the Stormwater Investment Plan by the Board of Supervisors, and revenue shortfall from COVID 19. Mr. Kim mentioned that upon execution of the Fund Transfer Agreement between the City, the earliest the municipalities can receive funds will be in August. Adoption of the SIPs by the Board of Supervisors is still tentatively for now but will most likely occur in September or October. Mr. Kim mentioned that there may be potential shortfall from COVID 19 and recommended that the WASCs be conservative when programming their SIP.

Mr. Glassock asked about the timeline for on-boarding Watershed Coordinators and stressed the importance of having Watershed Coordinators push and advocate for projects within Disadvantaged Communities (DAC).

#### **4. Public Comment Period**

The District received two letters from Our Water LA, which will be included in the meeting minutes. Mr. Bryan Matsumoto, who is with Nature4All and part of the Our Water LA coalition, recommended that the WASC only approve projects that are consistent with the goals of the SCW program. In this watershed area, Our Water LA recommends the WASCs to provide funding for the Bassett High School Stormwater Capture Multi-benefit project and no funding for the Regional Bacteria Study. Our Water LA recommends funding for project development phases only to ensure more funds are available next year, and that technical resources program applications include development and implementation of the community engagement plan.

Ms. Laura Santos voiced her support for the Bassett High School Stormwater Capture Multi-Benefit Project and recommended that there be more community engagement opportunities during the implementation phase of the project.

Ms. Anna Morales voiced her support for the Bassett High School Stormwater Capture Multi-benefit Project.

Mr. Bryan Matsumoto (Nature4all) voiced their support for the Bassett High School Stormwater Capture Multi-Benefit Project and stated that the project still lacks community engagement. Mr. Matsumoto emphasized the need for a robust community engagement plan and recommended funding dedicated to this cause.

#### **5. Discussion Items**

##### **a) SIP Programming Guidelines**

Mr. Kim discussed the SIP Programming Guidelines, including a brief discussion on the Infrastructure Program, Technical Resources Program, and methods for funding multi-year projects.

The programming guidelines suggests an 80 percent funding allocation for the first year in the SIP. However, due to the recent COVID pandemic and the uncertainties that the program may encounter in the next few years, the district recommends a lower threshold. The District understands that these funds will provide beneficial in the current economy, so these are circumstances that each Committee will need to take into account when designating a percent funding SIP allocation. If the Committee

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## Upper San Gabriel River

### Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



ultimately elects to move forward with a higher allocation near the initial 80 percent recommendation, a written justification will be required to accompany the request percent allocation as it moves forward for approval consideration.

#### **b) Disadvantage Communities Benefit**

Mr. Kim shared a list of Infrastructure Program applications claiming DAC benefits and asked the Committee member for their concurrence/confirmation on projects claiming DAC benefits. Mr. Alva asked the District to call on each project applicant and have them provide justification for claiming DAC benefits.

Encanto Park Stormwater Capture Project and Wingate Park Regional EWMP applicants provided a brief justification on how their projects provide benefits to Disadvantaged Communities and requested that the committee members take those into consideration.

Mr. Antos stated that there are many ways to measure different census boundaries and that there are many ways to categorize benefits to Disadvantaged Communities rather than just looking at proximity to a DAC census boundary.

Mr. Glassock encouraged the WASC committee members to get scientific on their approach when assessing DAC benefits and review applications to ensure that there is a community engagement aspect to DACs.

#### **c) Pre-discussion rankings, new online worksheet, and ranking tool**

Ms. Morita (District) shared and previewed the online ranking worksheet and provided instruction on how to rank projects using this platform. Ms. Morita also discussed how projects will be assigned points based on the aggregate rankings from the committee members.

Mr. Alva recommended an alternative ranking method, where the projects are separated by categories and ranked within the 3 sub-programs. Committee members concurred with this new approach. The District to revise and share the online ranking worksheet with the alternate ranking method.

#### **d) Public Comment Period**

Ms. Belinda Faustinos wanted to emphasize the issue of community engagement. In order the community engagement to be effective, funding will be needed during implementation phase of the projects.

Mr. Richard Watson provided a brief update to the committee on his recent conversation the Regional Board. Mr. Watson mentioned that Santa Clara River WASC approved the Study and requested that the WASC consider the Regional Bacteria Study for funding during this cycle because it will help the region save money in the long run by focusing on mitigating human markers.

#### **e) General discussion of submitted projects, project concepts and scientific studies**

##### **i) Infrastructure Program Applications**

###### **(1) Barnes Park Project**

The Project will feature an underground stormwater vault that would capture and infiltrate runoff from an 81-inch storm drain that collects stormwater from the residential area northeast of Barnes Park.

The Committee did not have any questions for this project.

###### **(2) Bassett High School Stormwater Capture Multi-Benefits Projects**

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The proposed Bassett High School project, located in the City of La Puente, will improve water quality, incorporate LID feature and create new open space to promote healthy lifestyle in a disadvantaged community.

Ms. Iwen Tseng mentioned that recent community outreach was done through SD1 Resource Fair (October 2018) but is always looking for additional partnerships and collaboration with the community. Ms. Tseng mentioned that the County worked with the science club at the school to promote community engagement in 2016. The County will work with the local stakeholders to address the community engagement shortfalls during implementation.

Ms. Enos voiced her support for this project and asked questions about matching funds, shovel readiness of the project and timeline, and the pocket park. The project was phased into two phases in case the project didn't receive matching funds. The project requested for IRWMP Prop 1 funding and funding from the cities and the intent is to build the project in one phase. There is slight delay in the design due to comments received from the school and the pocket park will be part of phase 2.

Mr. Glasscock asked about the size of the pocket park and the timeline for executing an agreement with Bassett Unified. Ms. Tseng stated it is a size of a softball field, around 2 to 3 acres. She also stated that the County will attend their board meeting this month. Mr. Glasscock stated that this pocket park is an important feature for County.

Mr. Nelson asked if the WASCs can change project applicant's funding requests over a longer period, so that the project applicant can borrow funds or apply for other grants. The District stated that it is possible but will need to work with the applicant.

### **(3) Encanto Park Stormwater Capture Project**

The proposed Project consists of a regional multi-benefit stormwater capture facility beneath the parking lot of Encanto Park and capturing storm and urban runoff from the adjacent storm drain. This project was identified for implementation in the RH/SGR revised Watershed Management Plan.

The Committee did not have any questions for this project.

### **(4) Finkbiner Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project**

The proposed project consists of a regional multi-benefit stormwater capture facility that will divert stormwater and urban runoff from a local storm drain and from Little Dalton Wash (USGR EWMP Program)

Mr. Alva asked about leverage funding. Ms. Sweet stated that the City of Glendora will use their municipal funds.

### **(5) Garvey Avenue Grade Separation Drainage Improvement Project**

The project proposes a new storm drain and infiltration system (galleries beneath street) to alleviate local flooding. An additional design objective is to improve the water quality of the San Gabriel River by capturing pollutants from low flows and stormwater runoff from rain events.

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Mr. Alva asked about the first-year funding request. Mr. Suher stated that the City would prefer to receive their entire request the first year to expedite the construction of this project because it impacts traffic and nearby businesses.

Mr. Enos asked about public facing and educational signage. Mr. Suher mentioned that they can work with the nearby school to educate students about the project.

Mr. Huff mentioned that it would be beneficial to incorporate education signage.

## **(6) Pedley Spreading Grounds**

This project proposes to deepen existing basins at the Pedley Spreading Grounds in order to accommodate 1.3 acre-feet of stormwater from a 45.8-acre drainage area during the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile, 24-hour storm.

Mr. Alva asked about capturing additional runoff from the nearby watershed area. Mr. Othmer stated that they would do additional technical analysis to determine that. Capturing additional runoff was not included in the original application.

Mr. Nelson and Mr. Alva asked if the project applicant is willing to absorb the cost to treat additional runoff, since the WASC cannot increase the funding request. Mr. Othmer stated that he will have to defer that question, but stated that the analysis will be done to determine the cost-effectiveness of taking additional runoff. Mr. Alva reiterated that if there is a change in project scope or cost, the project will need to be rescored.

Member of the public asked about vector control. Mr. Othmer stated that the existing spreading ground has not caused any vector issues and does not foresee that issue moving forward.

## **(7) Wingate Park Regional EWMP Project**

The proposed project included in in the Upper San Gabriel River EWMP and Upper San Gabriel IRWMP is a regional multi-beneficial project that will capture, treat, and infiltrate urban stormwater from the cities of Covina, Glendora, San Dimas, and surrounding unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County.

Ms. Ruffell and Mr. Alva clarified and confirmed the total funding request. During the first year of the project, the SCW funds will be used to fund design and CEQA. The total SCW request is over \$24 million over 5 years.

## **ii) Technical Resources Program Applications**

### **(1) Brackett Field Stormwater Infiltration**

This project proposes to install an underground infiltration gallery within Brackett Field Municipal Airport in order to infiltrate 15.5 acre-feet of stormwater from a 321-acre drainage area during the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile, 24-hour storm.

The Committee did not have any questions for this project.

### **(2) Fairplex Regional Stormwater Project**

This project proposes to install an underground infiltration gallery within the Fairplex's Grandstand Field in order to infiltrate 31 acre-feet of stormwater from a 488-acre drainage area during the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile, 24-hour storm.



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Ms. Enos asked about infiltration and impact of water supply to the receiving water. Mr. Othmer stated that water is captured before it reaches the receiving water to capture water compliance credits.

Mr. Othmer mentioned that the Technical Resources Program is needed to assist with community engagement for both Brackett Field and Fairplex Regional Stormwater Projects.

Ms. Ruffell asked his engagement with the County. Mr. Othmer stated that they have been engaged with the County and have received their full support.

### **(3) Glendora Avenue Green Street Feasibility Study Regional Stormwater Project**

Project concept seeks to develop a green street project on Glendora Avenue and nearby streets tributary to little Dalton Wash that will capture and treat stormwater and dry-weather runoff.

The Committee did not have any questions for this project.

### **(4) MacLaren Hall Property Park and Sports Fields Project**

The project concept seeks to develop the MacLaren Hall Property (a former LA County Child Services Facility) into a park and sports fields complex. Water quality improvements could include diverting some of the off-site runoff from the nearby storm drain into the park for infiltration and landscaping improvements to beautify the park and sports field complex.

The Committee did not have any questions for this project.

## **iii) Scientific Studies Program:**

### **(1) Regional Bacterial Study**

Overview of a proposed Regional Scientific Study that will use the latest available technologies and approaches to measure waterborne pathogens across Safe Clean Water Program watersheds to help identify key sources of human health risk, develop cost-effective strategies that better protect human health, and support the regulatory shift needed to accommodate a modernized approach.

Mr. Huff asked about the value of this study for this Watershed Area. Mr. Watson stated that there are three groups that have Bacteria TMDLs, that have not been met. Mr. Huff asked about TMDLs requirement in engineered channels. Mr. Watson stated that there is still a TMDL requirement for engineered channels.

### **(2) San Gabriel Valley Regional Confirmation of Infiltration Rates**

This scientific study proposes to identify field measured infiltration rates across the Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Area by utilizing standard methods of practice in order to optimize project design and prioritize project implementation for water quality enhancement and water supply augmentation.

Ms. Enos asked how this study will be used in conjunction with Technical Resources applications and asked about the purpose of the study. Mr. Othmer mentioned that the purpose of the study is to confirm the regional infiltration rates with better science and will directly benefit both Brackett Field and Fairplex Regional Stormwater Projects and other projects in the future. Mr. Kim stated that the District will conduct a desktop analysis for TRP applicants.

## **6. Voting Items (if time permits):**

### **a) Assign percent allocation target**



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There was not sufficient time to vote on percent allocation target. This will be included or discussed at the next agenda.

## **7. Items for next agenda**

Mr. Alva mentioned that the District will send out an online worksheet for Committee members to complete before the next meeting. Items for next agenda include ranking and SIP programming discussion, and confirm final SIP.

## **8. Adjournment**

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

DRAFT

# Safe, Clean Water Program

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

## SIP Programming Guidelines

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### Infrastructure Program

- WASC shall review and recommend projects as they were submitted.
- The SIP shall program the total requested funding amount by the applicant or none. For multi-year infrastructure program projects, the WASC may re-distribute funding without changing the total funding request. There are other methods, which are detailed out in **“Attachment A”**.
  - If a project that has been programmed into the SIP experience changes in project cost or scope, a revised application will need to be submitted, which will also be re-scored by the scoring committee as requested by the WASC.
- The 85/10/5% ratios and DAC benefits will be evaluated over a rolling 5-yr period each year. These criteria are calculated based on the funding allocated, not the regional funding available.
- If the WASC determines a project provides DAC benefits and the project is included in the SIP, the full funding amount will be used toward the DAC criteria calculation.
- Municipality benefits and spectrum of project types and sizes will be evaluated using total project cost, to the extent feasible, over a rolling 5-year period each year. Additional methodology and process to be determined by District in year 2.

### Technical Resources Program

- The District has committed to complete feasibility studies for a rate of \$300,000 to be approved and budgeted in the SIP. If less, the excess will be returned to the WASC. If more, District will use District Program SCW Funds to cover the excess cost.
  - The WASC may choose to allocate more than \$300,000 to a TRP, if they choose. Unused funds will be returned to the WASC regional program funds.
- The resulting feasibility studies will, at minimum, address the 19 requirements outlined in the SCW Feasibility Study Guidelines. Additional technical analysis will be included at the District’s discretion.
- Projects that do score above the threshold score cannot be referred to the Technical Resources Program.
- A placeholder of \$200,000 shall be programmed in the current SIP for watershed coordinator services.

### General Notes

- For the current year, the District recommends the WASCs allocate no more than 80% of the estimated revenue to account for potential lesser revenue due to tax relief programs, to ensure future capacity for new projects and consider contingencies for programmed projects. For the subsequent 4 years, the District recommends the WASCs earmark no more than 50% of the estimated revenue.
- Under extenuating circumstances where the SIP criteria cannot be met, an exception may be permitted and disclosed in the SIP. For example, if very few IP projects were submitted such that it significantly restricts available funding for TRPs and SSs, up to 10% and 5% of revenue generated by the Watershed Area can be allocated towards TRP and SS, respectively.
- As a part of quarterly/annual reporting, applicants will have the opportunity to adjust their funding distribution for consideration during programming next year’s SIP.

# Attachment A

## SIP development for multi-year Infrastructure Program Projects- Example Scenarios/Methods

*Infrastructure Program Project Developer (IPPD) desires \$30 M over 3 years (design/construction) for Project A; \$20 M elsewhere (\$50 M total)*

	SIP	TOTAL SCW FUNDS REQUESTED	FY 20-21 (Budgeted)	FY 21-22 (Projection)	FY 22-23 (Projection)	FY 23-24 (Projection)	FY 24-25 (Projection)
Scenario	<b>INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM</b>						
1	Project A	\$30 M	\$10 M	\$10 M	\$10 M		
2	Project A	\$10 M	\$10 M				
3	Project A	\$30 M	\$10 M	\$10 M	\$10 M		
4	Project A	\$30 M	\$5 M	\$10 M	\$15 M		
5	Project A	\$30 M	\$30 M				
6	Project A	\$30 M				\$30 M	

**Scenario 1:** Project is structured in phases (or re-structured into phases without changing the overall scope or project cost) that can be funded annually; IPPD receives \$10 M in year 1 with documented anticipation of two subsequent \$10 M allocations for Phases 2 and 3.

**Scenario 2:** Project is structured in phases that can be funded annually; IPPD receives \$10 M in year 1 but needs to request future \$10 M allocations because the total project cost was not requested initially. This option is discouraged for planning purposes.

**Scenario 3:** Project is not structured in phases, but IPPD demonstrates the capacity and acknowledges the risk of performing the work without encumbering the entirety of funds in advance (with documented earmarks/anticipation of two subsequent \$10 M allocations)

**Scenario 4:** Project is not structured in phases and WASC chooses to allocate funding over multiple years/SIPs to be accrued by IPPD. The IPPD will begin work once all funding is in hand (annual amounts accrued could vary).

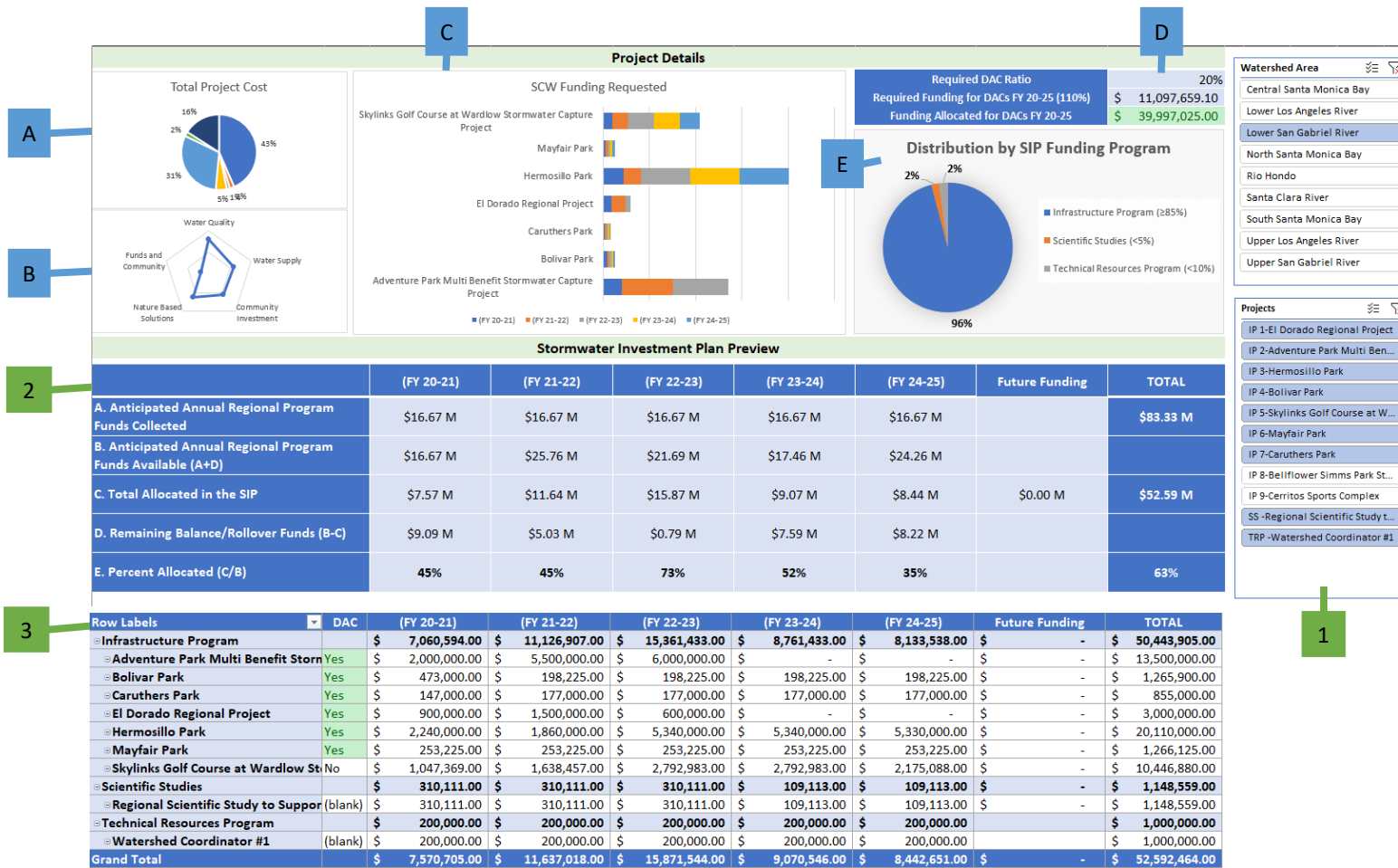
**Scenario 5:** Project is granted full request in its entirety up front, even if start of construction is multiple years away. This option is discouraged due to likely long-term uncertainties.

**Scenario 6:** Project is earmarked for full funding in a future SIP year. WASC may anticipate or plan for rolled over funds from prior years to allow for full funding in single future budget but is not guaranteeing any official recommended budget at this time.

**NOTES:**

- Future funding requests are subject to WASC annual confirmation of budget, scope, and schedule, and ultimately Board Approval.
- Example assumes that the SIP has met other requirements in LACFCD Code and accompanying guidelines (85/10/5; DAC %; etc.)
- Contingencies should be built-in to recommended SIP allocations at WASCs discretion.
- Operations and Maintenance still can be requested.

# SIP Planning Tool Overview



**Total Project Cost:**

- Displays the Project cost as a percentage for the Projects selected.

**Project Benefits:**

- Displays the summary of Project benefits finalized by the Scoring Committee for the Projects selected.

**SCW Funding Requested:**

- Displays the funding requested for each year for the Projects selected.

**DAC Benefits:**

- Calculates if the DAC criteria is met for the Projects selected.

**Breakdown by SIP Funding Program:**

- Calculates how funding is distributed among the subprograms for the Projects selected.

**Project Selection:**

- The available selections for Infrastructure Program, Technical Resources Program, and Scientific Studies.
- The blue color indicates the project has been selected.
- Data from the Project Module and Scoring Committee is pulled into the SIP Tool.
- Watershed Coordinators is the minimum number determined by ordinance
- Number indicates preliminary ranking

**SIP Summary:**

- A. The District estimate of collected tax revenue for the watershed area. (Does not show the reductions for the Credit Program, tax exemptions and reductions.)
- B. The Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Collected plus any Rollover Funds from the previous fiscal year.
- C. The total allocated in the SIP based on the projects selected.
- D. The remaining balance that will be rolled over into the next fiscal year.
- E. Calculates the percentage of funds allocated for the fiscal year.

**SIP Budget:**

- Displays annual allocations for all Projects selected.
- Blue rows display the subtotals for each of the subprograms
- The TOTAL column displays the SCW funding allocated over the 5yr period.
- The Grand Total Row displays the total allocated in the SIP based on the Projects selected.