

Safe, Clean Water Program

Rio Hondo

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Meeting Minutes:

Wednesday, March 6, 2020

9:00am - 12:00am

WebEx Meeting

Attendees

Committee Members and Alternates:

Mark Lombos (LA County)
Julian Juarez (LA County Flood Control District)
Kristen Ruffell (Sanitation Districts)
Mark Hall (Greater LA County Vector Control District)
Brent Maue (City of Pasadena Parks and Recreation)

Thomas Wong (San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District)
Frank Lopez (Monterey Park)
David Dolphin (Alhambra)
Vanessa Hevener (Arcadia)
Sean Singletary (Pasadena)
James Carlson (Sierra Madre)
Gloria Crudgington (Monrovia)
Tom Love (Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District)
Kelly Gardner (Main San Gabriel Basin)

Michael Hurley (Cal Water)
Daniel Rossman (The Wilderness Society)

Committee Members Not Present

Michael Hurley (Cal Water) Ron Miller (LA/OC Building Trades)

*Committee Member Alternate

See attached attendance sheet 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. Lombos of Los Angeles County, the Vice-chair of the Rio Hondo, called the meeting to order.

Mr. Lombos welcomed the committee members and the members of the public. Mr. Lombos discussed housekeeping items for this WebEx meeting and the public comment process.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 11, 2020

The District uploaded a copy of the meeting minutes from the March 11th meeting on the SCW website. Mr. Lombos asked the committee members for comments or revisions. The committee had no revisions or comments. Ms. Crudgington motioned to approve the meeting minutes as presented, with Mr. Wong seconding this motion.

The Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes from March 11, 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 21st. The District received over 50 comment letters and emails. SCW staff to work with County Counsel to address 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 District Staff is working with our internal division to release the solicitation sometime in June. Mr. Kim also mentioned that the Call for Projects for round 2 is still open and anticipated to close at the end of July.

Mr. Lombos asked about Board Approval timeline of the SIPs. Mr. Kim mentioned that the timeline is still tentative but hoping for Board Approval of the SIPs by August. Mr. Lombos asked how the district plans to inform the public in regards to the solicitation of Watershed Coordinator Services. Mr., Kim stated that the District will use our existing listserv and will create a dedicated page on our website.

4. Public Comment Period

The District received a letter from OWLA on April 24, 2020 in regards to recommendations for best practices for public participation, and project funding recommended, which will be included in the meeting minutes. Ms. Faustinos (OWLA) recommended that OWLA letters be shared with the committee before the meeting and that public comments be better memorialized in the meeting minutes. She recommended that the WASC only approve projects that are consistent with the goals of the SCW program and only voiced her recommendation for East LA Sustainable Median Project. She also stressed the importance of dedicated funding towards community engagement.

Mr. Matsumoto voiced his support for the East LA Sustainable Median Project and conserve funding for this round for future projects that benefit DACs. He also voiced his concern for the Regional Bacteria Study. He recommended that technical resources program applications include development and implementation of the community engagement plan and that community engagement involve local and experienced CBOs. For projects that claim DAC benefits, he recommended that the project applicant work with CBOs to verify the claimed benefits.

A member of the public, a resident of Monrovia, voiced her support for the East LA Median Project, emphasized the importance of unionized labor for stormwater projects and accessibility of meetings for community engagement.

5. Discussion and Voting Items:

a. Overview of the 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 recommended 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

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percent funding SIP allocation. If the Committee 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. [Voting Item] Assign Percent Allocation Target

No vote to assign percent allocation target was taken at this meeting.

c. Discussion of Project Rankings

Ms. Turcotte provided a brief overview of the SIP Planning tool and displayed the rankings from the March meeting.

Ms. Crudgington and Mr. Wong asked about anticipated revenue for this fiscal year and impacts from COVID. Mr. Kim stated that the District collected approximately \$240mn out of the \$285mn for the Regional Program and that there may be potential impact to Regional Program revenue in next fiscal year. Mr. Wong recommended that given the uncertainty, he would like to program less funds this first year.

Mr. Hall asked about the WASC Letter to the Scoring Committee. Mr. Kim stated that the Scoring Committee was scheduled to discuss this letter at their meeting but was postponed due to COVID. No update at this time.

Mr. Kim clarified that the Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Project would like to pursue this project under the Technical Resources Program.

Mr. Dolphin asked about setting allocation percentage for the first year or the subsequent years. Mr. Lombos stated that it would be up the WASCs to make motions to set those target allocations.

Mr. Love asked about the water supply score of the East LA Sustainable Median project. Mr. Venzon clarified that the project does not drain to the Rio Hondo spreading grounds but drains to the LA River. Mr., Kim also commented that the Scoring Committee has verified the scores for each application.

Mr. Rossman commented that project applicants were rushed to submit projects this first year and that there should be a better pool of projects to select from in year two. Mr. Rossman recommended that the committee be conservative programming this first year's SIP. Ms. Gardner echoed Mr. Rossman and Mr. Wong concerns about programming too much funds this first year.

Ms. Crudgington echoed concerns from Ms. Gardner, Mr. Rossman and Mr. Wong and concerns about scoring criteria. Ms. Crudgington stated that she is uncomfortable moving forward with the Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project without approval from the City of Monrovia.

Mr. Lombos reiterated that one of the committee's role is to identify and select the best project that are ready to be funded with the understanding that there is a commitment to allocate future funding for multi-year projects.

d. Public Comment Period

Ms. Faustinos expressed support for the Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Projects because of the benefits to Disadvantaged Communities and mentioned that projects that provide DAC benefits should be prioritized in this watershed area. Ms. Crudgington

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responded that phase 2 of the Arcadia Wash Diversion Project will be located in a Disadvantage Community.

A member of the public asked the committee to reconsider and schedule meetings after work hours for better participation from the public and community feedback.

e. [Voting Item] Selection of projects into the SIP

Ms. Ruffell motioned to include the East LA Sustainable Median Project into the SIP with funding allocations to be determined after approval from the WASC. Mr. Wong seconded. Mr. Love and Ms. Crudgington voiced their concerns with this approach to piece-meal projects. After further discussion, Mr. Ruffell revised her motion to vote in each project starting from the top of the ranking list into the SIP. Mr. Dolphin seconded the revised motion.

The committee voted to start from the top of the ranking list and vote each project into the SIP (unanimous)

Ms. Ruffell motioned to include the East LA Median Project into the SIP. Mr. Love seconded.

The committee voted to include the East LA Sustainable Median Project into the SIP into the SIP (unanimous)

Ms. Ruffell asked the City of Monrovia if the project applicant is still interested in pursuing technical assistance through the Technical Resources Program (TRP). Ms. Crudgington and Mr. Tachiki from the City of Monrovia confirmed their interest in the TRP.

Ms. Ruffell motioned to include the Arcadia Wash Water Conservation Diversion Project into SIP. Ms. Crudgington seconded.

The committee voted to include the Arcadia Wash Water Conservation Diversion Project into the SIP (Majority with 14 ayes and 1 no)

Mr. Love motioned to include the Baldwin Lake and Tule Pond Restoration Project into the SIP. Ms. Crudgington seconded.

The committee voted to include the Baldwin Lake and Tule Pond Restoration Project into the SIP (Majority with 13 ayes and 2 noes)

Mr. Dolphin motioned to include the Load Reduction Strategy (LRS) Adaptation to address the LA River Bacteria TMDL for the ULAR Watershed Management Group under the Scientific Studies Program. Mr. Singletary seconded. The project proponent provided a quick overview of the study. The funding is for the development of an LRS adaptation plan, with the goal to adapt the LRS to better align implementation actions in order to successfully reduce potential health risks to recreators. Mr. Juarez asked about the study schedule and reporting. Project proponent mentioned that the final plan will be complete by June 2021. Ms. Turcotte mentioned that applicants that receive SCW funds will need to submit quarterly reports to the WASC.

The committee voted to include the Load Reduction Strategy (LRS) Adaption to address the LA River Bacteria TMDL for the ULAR Watershed Management Group into the SIP (Majority with 13 ayes and 2 noes)

The next project for discussion was the preSIP scientific study. Mr. Juarez asked the project proponent to clarify their schedule and milestones. The project proponent confirmed that the scientific study will be complete by FY 22-23 with interim milestones. The study will propose

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an actionable pathway for compliance. Mr. Dolphin motioned to include the preSIP into the SIP. Ms. Crudgington seconded.

The committee voted to include the preSIP: a platform for watershed science and project collaboration into the SIP (Majority with 12 ayes and 3 noes)

The next project for discussion was the Ranchito Sierra Vista Infiltration Project. The project proponent gave a quick overview of the project. The project seeks to install drywell within the city's right of way, which includes trash/debris and sediment settling chambers to reduce urban runoff. Mr. Lopez motioned to include the Ranchito Sierra Vista Infiltration Project into the SIP. Mr. Dolphin seconded.

The committee voted to include the Ranchito Sierra Vista Infiltration Project into the SIP (Majority with 12 ayes and 3 noes)

The project proponents for the Regional Scientific Study to Support Protection of Human Health through Targeted Reduction of Bacteriological Pollution, Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project and the Vincent Lugo Park Stormwater Capture Feasibility Study were asked to give a quick overview and update on their projects.

Ms. Robinson (Project proponent for the Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project) asked the committee to consider this project to be included into the SIP because of the benefits to Disadvantaged Communities. Ms. Crudgington stated that she is uncomfortable moving forward with the Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project without approval from her colleagues from the City.

Mr. Dolphin motioned to include the Vincent Lugo Park Stormwater Capture Feasibility Study into the SIP. Mr. Carlson seconded.

The committee voted to include the Vincent Lugo Park Stormwater Capture Project into the SIP (Majority with 9 ayes, 3 noes, and 3 abstentions)

Ms. Crudgington motioned to include the Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project contingent on approval by the Monrovia City Council meeting on May 17th. Ms. Ruffell asked the project proponent if this project will only capture flows from the school. Ms. Robinson stated that the technical assistance teams will help develop the project concept to provide more regional benefits. Ms. Crudgington stated that this project is not part of the City's MS4 compliance project list. Ms. Ruffell stated that she has been hesitant to vote on projects that only provide local benefits and that projects voted into the SIP should have significant capture area that provides regional benefits. Mr. Dolphin seconded.

The motion to include the Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project into the SIP did not pass (5 ayes, 9 noes and 1 abstention)

f. Restructuring of annual funding requests for selected Projects

Since the East LA median Project is ready for construction, Mr. Lopez recommended to revise the annual funding request to fund the entire request in year one. Mr. Love asked if the project applicant will be able to use the entire request in year one. The project proponent stated that most of the construction will occur during year one and will be able to expend the entire request.

The committee then went through each project that were voted into the SIP and confirmed their annual funding requests.

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g. [Voting Item] Confirm final Stormwater Investment Plan (if time permits)

Ms. Ruffell motioned to approve the final Stormwater Investment Plan with confirmed annual requests from the project proponents. Mr. Love seconded. There was consensus from the committee to adjust the funding request for the East LA median Project and fund the entire request in year one of the SIP. Ms. Ruffell amended her previous motion to approve the final Stormwater Investment Plan with funding adjustment to East LA median Project and keep the annual requests from project proponents the same. Mr. Love seconded the amended motion.

The committee voted to approve the final Stormwater Investment Plan with the funding adjustment to the East LA median project and other annual requests to remain the same (Majority with 10 ayes, 4 noes, and 1 abstention)

6. Items for Next Agenda

No Agenda items for next meeting. Mr. Kim to work with chair and vice chair on next meeting date and agenda items.

7. Adjournment

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

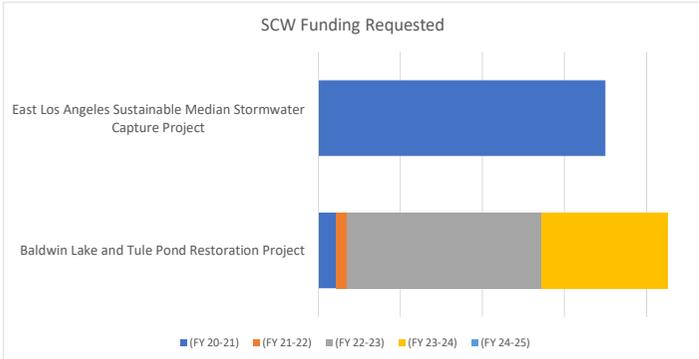
6-May-20

Quorum Present				Voting Items											
Member Type	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	Meeting Minutes	Include ranked projects into SIP one by one	Include East LA SIP	Include Arcadia Wash	Include Baldwin Lake	Include LRS Adaption	Include preSIP	Include Ranchito Seirra Vista	Include Vincent Lugo Park	Include Monrovia Unified School TRP contingent upon May 17th City Counsel approval Letter of Support	Approve SIP reflecting moving \$3.5 M for East LA to first year with 76% for first year allocation
Agency	Julian Juarez	x	Carolina Hernandez		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Agency	Tom Love	x	Robert Tock		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Agency	Kelly Gardner	x	Tony Zampello		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	N	A
Agency	Kristen Ruffell	x	Martha Tremblay		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Agency	Brent Maue	x			Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
Community Stakeholder	Thomas Wong	x	Bryan Matsumoto		Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	A	Y	N
Community Stakeholder	Michael Hurley														
Community Stakeholder	Mark Hall	x	Mark Daniel		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Community Stakeholder	Ron Miller														
Community Stakeholder	Daniel Rossman	x	Liliana Griego		Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Municipal Members	David Dolphin	x	Latoya Waters		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Municipal Members	Vanessa Hevener	x	Eddie Chan		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Municipal Members	Mark Lombos	x	Fernando Villaluna		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Municipal Members	Gloria	x	Sean Sullivan		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	N
Municipal Members	Frank Lopez	x	Mark A. McAvoy		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Municipal Members	Sean Singletary	x	Kris Markarian		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Municipal Members	James Carlson	x	Chris Cimino		Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Total Non-Vacant Seats	17			Yay (Y)	15	13	15	14	13	13	12	12	9	5	10
Total Voting Members Present	15			Nay (N)	0	0	0	1	2	2	3	3	3	10	4
Agency	5			Abstain (A)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Community Stakeholder	3			Total	15	13	15	15	15	15	15	15	12	15	14
Municipal Members	7				Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Not Approved	Approved

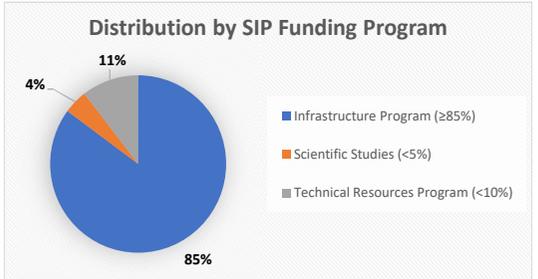
Attendees
RH WASC - MAY 6, 2020

Sean Singletary	mhall
Ariella Dahlin - Amigos de los Rios	OliverGalang
Gregor	Linh Diep
Mackenzie	Dawn Petschauer
gjaquez	Hugo Garcia (JLHA)
Alex Tachiki	CRobinson
James Carlson	Thuan Nguyen
jason.fussel	Kevin Kim - LACFCD
Alysha Chan	Kevin Kim - LACFCD
Julian Juarez	Brent
Mackenzie Domann - LA County Public Works	Alex Tachiki
Tom Love	Brent
Mike Antos (Stantec)	Belinda V Faustinos
Bryan Matsumoto	Stephanie Tong
Kelly	Eddie Chan
Frank Lopez	Hans Tremmel
Frank Lopez, City of Monterey Park	Jud Warren
youssef chebabi	Safe Clean Water LA
Kathryn Melendez	Safe Clean Water LA
Joe Venzon - LA County	wongt2
Jonathan Lu	Richard Watson
Blake Whittington	Brent
Lynda	Mark Lombos (LA County Public Works)
Katie Ward (SGVCOG)	kruffell
Alysha Chan	Jason Pereira
Alysha Chan	Gloria Crudgington
Kevin Kim - LACFCD	Vanessa
Jud Warren	Brianna Datti
IEC	Daniel Rossman
Brent	Hugo Garcia (JLHA)
justin	justin
Melissa Turcotte	Drew
Kevin Kim - LACFCD	Clint Boschen
Melissa Turcotte	Eddie Chan
BradWardynski	Machiko Yasuda
David Dolphin	Eileen Alduenda
Dawn Petschauer	Eileen Alduenda
	Joshua Felton
	Cameron McCullough (JLHA)

Project Details



Required DAC Ratio	35%
Required Funding for DACs FY 20-25 (110%)	\$ 5,967,500.00
Funding Allocated for DACs FY 20-25	\$ 15,500,000.00



Watershed Area

Central Santa Monica Bay
Lower Los Angeles River
Lower San Gabriel River
North Santa Monica Bay
Rio Hondo
Santa Clara River
South Santa Monica Bay
Upper Los Angeles River
Upper San Gabriel River

Stormwater Investment Plan Preview

	(FY 20-21)	(FY 21-22)	(FY 22-23)	(FY 23-24)	(FY 24-25)	Future Funding	TOTAL
A. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Collected	\$11.54 M		\$57.71 M				
B. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Available (A+D)	\$11.54 M	\$14.28 M	\$25.02 M	\$31.42 M	\$39.70 M		
C. Total Allocated in the SIP	\$8.81 M	\$0.80 M	\$5.14 M	\$3.26 M	\$0.20 M	\$0.00 M	\$18.20 M
D. Remaining Balance/Rollover Funds (B-C)	\$2.73 M	\$13.48 M	\$19.88 M	\$28.16 M	\$39.50 M		
E. Percent Allocated (C/B)	76%	6%	21%	10%	1%		32%

Projects

IP 1-East Los Angeles Sustainabl...
IP 3-Baldwin Lake and Tule Pon...
SS 4-LRS Adaptation to Address ...
SS 5-preSIP: A Platform for Wat...
SS -Regional Scientific Study to S...
TRP 2-Arcadia Wash Water Cons...
TRP 6-Ranchito Sierra Vista Infil...
TRP -Monrovia Unified School D...
TRP -Vincent Lugo Park Stomwa...
TRP -Watershed Coordinator #1

Row Labels	DAC	(FY 20-21)	(FY 21-22)	(FY 22-23)	(FY 23-24)	(FY 24-25)	Future Funding	TOTAL
Infrastructure Program		\$ 7,440,000.00	\$ 270,000.00	\$ 4,730,000.00	\$ 3,060,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,500,000.00
Baldwin Lake and Tule Restoratio	Yes	\$ 440,000.00	\$ 270,000.00	\$ 4,730,000.00	\$ 3,060,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,500,000.00
East Los Angeles Sustainable Median St	Yes	\$ 7,000,000.00		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,000,000.00
Scientific Studies		\$ 267,500.00	\$ 325,000.00	\$ 212,000.00			\$ -	\$ 804,500.00
LRS Adaptation to Address the LA River	(blank)	\$ 57,500.00	\$ 115,000.00	\$ 92,000.00			\$ -	\$ 264,500.00
preSIP: A Platform for Watershed Scien	(blank)	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 120,000.00			\$ -	\$ 540,000.00
Technical Resources Program		\$ 1,100,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,900,000.00
Arcadia Wash Water Conservation Dive	No	\$ 300,000.00					\$ -	\$ 300,000.00
Ranchito Sierra Vista Infiltration Projec	No	\$ 300,000.00					\$ -	\$ 300,000.00
Vincent Lugo Park Stomwater Capture	(blank)	\$ 300,000.00					\$ -	\$ 300,000.00
Watershed Coordinator #1	(blank)	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00		\$ 1,000,000.00
Grand Total		\$ 8,807,500.00	\$ 795,000.00	\$ 5,142,000.00	\$ 3,260,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -	\$ 18,204,500.00



DATE: April 24, 2020

TO: Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASC), Scoring and Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) Members
Los Angeles County Safe Clean Water Program Staff
Los Angeles County Board Public Works Deputies

RE: **OurWaterLA Recommendations - Watershed Area Stormwater Investment Plan for 2019-2020**

On March 10, 2020 OurWaterLA (OWLA) submitted a memo for distribution to the WASC committees specifying our recommendations for the Watershed Area Stormwater Investment Plans (SIP) under consideration by the WASCs prior to the Safer at Home order. However, only a few of the WASC groups had the opportunity to review the memo. Given our new reality and the conditions under which extremely important decisions will be considered by the WASCs we wish to summarize and update the points we believe are extremely important to ensure that the decision-making process is transparent and results in only the best projects being funded during these unprecedented times.

The following are the major issues that we believe are critically important for your consideration as you deliberate on the recommendations you will be making for this first round of funding recommendations. Given the vast number of issues you will have to consider we are providing “bullet” points but encourage all members to review our more in-depth recommendations provided in the attached March 10, 2020 memo (Attachment 3). OWLA recommends the following:

Best Practices for Public Participation

- Notify the public of all meetings and hearings at least 72 hours in advance. Information on public meeting times, topics, and how public comments will be received should be easy to find on the SCWP website home page and within the meeting agendas (*currently not the case*). This information, as well as any additional accompanying meeting materials, should be translated into at least Spanish and Mandarin.

- Ensure language access needs are met by providing interpretation during public meetings. For remote meetings, use teleconference lines or audio channels.
- Consider participation barriers for members of the public that may not have access to the internet or a computer. Provide adequate telephone options, with interpretation, for virtual meetings and receiving public comments. Having multiple avenues to engage in a given meeting will ensure more robust dialogue and input.
- Use best practices for public comment periods in virtual hearings and meetings. This includes giving ample time for the public to submit comments prior to a meeting through multiple avenues and live during a meeting.
- Provide links to all materials including presentations at least 72 hours prior to each meeting.

Project Funding Recommendations

- Fund projects that best exemplify the goals (Attachment 2) of the SCWP. The best projects out of the 53 that are eligible for funding are listed in Attachment 1.
- No funding for the Regional Scientific Study to Support Protection of Human Health through Targeted Reduction of Bacteriological Pollution. We have serious concerns about the legitimacy of this proposed study.
- Fund projects in phases to get projects through initial project development, such as project design in order to preserve funds for future years.
- Require that all Technical Resources allocations include the development and implementation of a Community Engagement Plan.

Community Engagement, Equity, Community Investments & DAC Benefits

- Require that all project funding recommendations include a sustained community engagement element with the assistance of local experienced NGOs from design through construction and operations and maintenance.
- Require that all projects which claim points for Community Investments submit letters from local community groups verifying that the project includes tangible community investments.
- Those projects which claim that jobs will provide direct community investments, such as high quality local job and training opportunities must include documentation as to how they will achieve this goal.

ATTACHMENT 1

Projects Recommended for Funding

Project Name	WASC	Notes
MacArthur Lake Rehabilitation Project	Central Santa Monica Bay	<u>SCORE: 70</u> A strong water quality improvement project that uses nature-based solutions and provides DAC benefits and some additional community investment benefits.
Monteith Park and View Park Green Alley Stormwater Improvements Project	Central Santa Monica Bay	<u>SCORE: 80</u> A strong nature-based water quality improvement project that provides DAC benefits and some additional community investment benefits.
Salt Lake Park Infiltration Cistern	Lower Los Angeles River	<u>SCORE: 76</u> A strong nature-based water quality improvement project that is leveraging funds to provide DAC benefits and some additional community investment benefits.
Hermosillo Park Regional Stormwater Project	Lower San Gabriel River	<u>SCORE: 84</u> A good water quality improvement project which will provide additional community investment benefits.
East Los Angeles Sustainable Median Stormwater Capture Project	Rio Hondo	<u>SCORE: 83</u> A good water quality improvement project that is leveraging funds and using nature-based solutions to provide significant water supply benefits, DAC benefits, and some additional community investment benefits.
Hasley Canyon Park Stormwater Improvements Project	Santa Clara	<u>SCORE: 63</u> A good water quality improvement project that is leveraging funds and using nature-based solutions to provide some additional community investment benefits.
Rory M. Shaw Wetlands Park Project	Upper Los Angeles River	<u>SCORE: 96</u> Strong water quality improvement project that is leveraging funds and using nature-based solutions to provide significant water supply benefits, DAC benefits, and some additional community investment benefits.
Strathern North Stormwater Capture Project	Upper Los Angeles River	<u>SCORE: 89</u> Good water quality, nature-based elements and community benefits project that would benefit DAC communities and had support letters from local groups.

Bassett High School Stormwater Capture Multi-Benefit Project	Upper San Gabriel River	<u>SCORE: 92</u> Strong water quality improvement project that leverages funds and uses nature-based solutions to provide some water supply benefits, DAC benefits, and some additional community investment benefits.
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Attachment 2

Safe, Clean Water Program Implementation Ordinance: Section 18.04 SCW Program Goals.

- A. Improve water quality and contribute to attainment of water-quality requirements.
- B. Increase drought preparedness by capturing more Stormwater and/or Urban Runoff to store, clean, reuse, and/or recharge groundwater basins.
- C. Improve public health by preventing and cleaning up contaminated water, increasing access to open space, providing additional recreational opportunities, and helping communities mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change through activities such as increasing shade and green space.
- D. Leverage other funding sources to maximize SCW Program Goals.
- E. Invest in infrastructure that provides multiple benefits.
- F. Prioritize Nature-Based Solutions.
- G. Provide a spectrum of project sizes from neighborhood to regional scales.
- H. Encourage innovation and adoption of new technologies and practices.
- I. Invest in independent scientific research.
- J. Provide DAC Benefits, including Regional Program infrastructure investments, that are not less than one hundred and ten percent (110%) of the ratio of the DAC population to the total population in each Watershed Area.
- K. Provide Regional Program infrastructure funds benefiting each Municipality in proportion to the funds generated within their jurisdiction, after accounting for allocation of the one hundred and ten percent (110%) return to DACs, to the extent feasible.
- L. Implement an iterative planning and evaluation process to ensure adaptive management.
- M. Promote green jobs and career pathways.
- N. Ensure ongoing operations and maintenance for Projects.

Attachment 3
March 10, 2020 Letter from OWLA to WASCs



DATE: March 10, 2020

TO: WASC Chair & Members
CC: LAC SCWP Staff

RE: **OurWaterLA Recommendations Concerning the Watershed Area Stormwater Investment Plan for 2019-2020**

OurWaterLA (OWLA) is a diverse coalition that has engaged communities, businesses, and organizations across Los Angeles County, building support to reinvent and reinvest in our water future using nature based infrastructure that provides community health benefits, environmental health benefits, and economic benefits. OWLA recommends that funding priority be given to the projects that best exemplify the goals of the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP), and that consideration should be given to reserving future funds for future exemplary projects.

FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR STORMWATER PROJECTS

The Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) must achieve the fourteen programmatic goals clearly laid out in the SCWP Implementation Ordinance (Attachment 1), including the goals to improve water quality and contribute to attainment of water-quality requirements, as well as multiple additional community investments such as prioritization of nature based solutions, community engagement, equity, and quality jobs. Our top issues are shown below in bullet point format and described more robustly in Attachment 1.

Nature Based Solutions

The prioritization of nature based solutions is a specific programmatic goal of the SCWP, and therefore must be reflected in the projects for the SIP.

Community Engagement

A plan for future community outreach is not sufficient for true community engagement in a project. Priority should be given to projects for which local community engagement, designed specifically for the proposed project, has already been initiated.

Equity

One of the most innovative aspects of the SCWP is the written requirements for the equitable distribution of community investments. When assessing the 110% benefit return on investments

for disadvantaged communities, it is important to clarify what type of benefits a project provides, and whether the proposed investments directly benefit the receiving community and verified by local community groups.

Quality Jobs

At a minimum, funding through the SCWP SIP must be contingent upon providing direct community investments, such as high quality local job and training opportunities.

We recommend that all of these programmatic goals be considered when selecting projects for full or partial funding for the 2019-2020 SIP, and that consideration be given to reserving future funds for future exemplary projects. One opportunity to reserve future funding is to fund projects in phases, to get projects through initial project development, such as project design.

FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR SCIENTIFIC STUDIES

There have also been proposals for funding through the SCWP Scientific Studies Program. The purpose of the Scientific Studies Program is to provide funding for scientific and technical activities, including, but not limited to, scientific studies, technical studies, monitoring, and modeling related to *stormwater and urban runoff capture and pollution reduction*.

OWLA recommends that no funding be allocated for the Regional Scientific Study to Support Protection of Human Health through Targeted Reduction of Bacteriological Pollution. We have serious concerns about the legitimacy of this proposed study. It has no hypothesis or clear methodology, and no scientific professionals were involved in the development of the study, as is required under the SCWP Scientific Studies Program when feasible.

This proposal is asking for nearly \$10 million region-wide over the next five years to target a specific source of a specific pollutant rather than providing multiple benefits, and to potentially weaken water quality objectives rather than improving our water quality. This proposed study will not support many of the program goals, listed in Attachment 1. Additionally, there are other potential funding sources for this study including the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition, which already has a similar study in its 5-year plan. **This nearly \$10 million should be spent to invest in our communities with multi-benefit stormwater capture projects.**

Further, for those WASCs considering the Wet Weather Zinc study, this proposal is asking for \$500K to potentially weaken water quality objectives, rather than improving our water quality. Funds should instead be spent on multi-benefit stormwater capture projects. The Safe, Clean Water Program is not the right funding source for this study because this study does not support many of the goals of the Safe, Clean Water Program or its Scientific Studies Program. There are other potential ways to achieve this type of recalculation, including working with the State Water Resources Control Board.

Thank you all for the considerable time and effort that you have contributed to the implementation of the Safe, Clean Water Program. We look forward to continuing our collaborative work with each of you, with the County of Los Angeles, and with our communities to most efficiently and effectively reinvest in our water future. Many of us, including WASC members, recognize that this is a complex process, and we would be remiss not to stop and strongly re-evaluate the context for making these critically important funding recommendations. OWLA core team members want to work with you to be part of the solution for meeting water quality standards by implementing multi-benefit projects. Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations.

Sincerely,

OWLA Core Team

ATTACHMENT 1

Safe, Clean Water Program Implementation Ordinance: Section 18.04 SCW Program Goals.

- A. Improve water quality and contribute to attainment of water-quality requirements.
- B. Increase drought preparedness by capturing more Stormwater and/or Urban Runoff to store, clean, reuse, and/or recharge groundwater basins.
- C. Improve public health by preventing and cleaning up contaminated water, increasing access to open space, providing additional recreational opportunities, and helping communities mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change through activities such as increasing shade and green space.
- D. Leverage other funding sources to maximize SCW Program Goals.
- E. Invest in infrastructure that provides multiple benefits.
- F. Prioritize Nature-Based Solutions.
- G. Provide a spectrum of project sizes from neighborhood to regional scales.
- H. Encourage innovation and adoption of new technologies and practices.
- I. Invest in independent scientific research.
- J. Provide DAC Benefits, including Regional Program infrastructure investments, that are not less than one hundred and ten percent (110%) of the ratio of the DAC population to the total population in each Watershed Area.
- K. Provide Regional Program infrastructure funds benefiting each Municipality in proportion to the funds generated within their jurisdiction, after accounting for allocation of the one hundred and ten percent (110%) return to DACs, to the extent feasible.
- L. Implement an iterative planning and evaluation process to ensure adaptive management.
- M. Promote green jobs and career pathways.
- N. Ensure ongoing operations and maintenance for Projects.