

Safe, Clean Water Program

Upper Los Angeles River

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Meeting Minutes:

Thursday, May 28, 2020

2:00pm – 4:00pm

WebEx Meeting – See below or [SCW website](#) for WebEx meeting details

WebEx Meeting Details:

WASC 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: 965 852 032

Password: QkS5EYJ3yu6

<https://lacountydpw.webex.com/lacountydpw/j.php?MTID=me0f077d4dba612645e911090af6a89e1>

Join by phone

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

Access code: 965 852 032

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. 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 by at least 5:00pm the day prior to the meeting.

Attendees:

WASC Members Present:

Paul Lui (LA Dept. of Water and Power)
Alfredo Magallanes (Los Angeles – Sanitation)
Delon Kwan (LA Dept. of Water and Power)
David Nahai (Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith)
Veronica Padilla-Campos (Pacoima Beautiful)
Teresa Villegas* (Los Angeles)
Patrick DeChellis (La Canada Flintridge)
Miguel Luna (Urban Semilla DakeLuna Consultants)
TJ Moon* (Los Angeles County Public Works)

Gary Hildebrand (Los Angeles County Flood Control District)
Ernesto Pantoja (Laborers Local 300)
Kris Markarian (Pasadena)
Cathie Santo Domingo (LA Recreation & Parks)
John Luker (Santa Susana Mountain Park Association)
Yazdan Emrani (Glendale)
Rafael Prieto* (Los Angeles)

WASC Members Not Present:

Ackley Padilla (Los Angeles)

*WASC Member Alternate

See attachment for full list of attendees

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1. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. CJ Caluag provided an overview of the WebEx interface and provided instructions for a member of the public to provide a comment during the Public Comment Period. He facilitated roll call voting for attendance and quorum was established.

Mr. David Nahai, the Chair of the Upper Los Angeles River WASC, called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 14, 2020

The District provided a copy of the meeting minutes from the previous meeting. Mr. Nahai asked the WASC members for comments or revisions, there were none. Mr. Yazdan Emrani motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. Teresa Villegas seconded the motion. The WASC did a roll call vote to approve the meeting minutes from May 14, 2020 (unanimous).

Note Ms. Cathie Santo Domingo, Mr. Ernesto Pantoja and Mr. Ackley Padilla were not present during this agenda item.

3. Committee Member and District Updates

Mr. Caluag announced that seven out of nine WASCs have approved their Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) to date and that the Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) is scheduled to meet on June 18, 2020 and June 24, 2020 to review the SIPs. Mr. Caluag advised the WASC chairs to be in attendance and District staff will invite project applicants to attend the meeting and to be ready to answer any questions brought forth from the ROC.

Mr. Caluag noted that the fund Transfer Agreement templates will be on the Board of Supervisors agenda on June 9, 2020.

Lastly, Mr. Caluag gave an update on the Watershed Coordinator position. He noted that the Request for Statement of Qualifications for the Watershed Coordinator Services is posted on the SCW website and will close on July 20, 2020 at 5:30 PM. Mr. Caluag also noted that 2 webinar proposers conferences are scheduled for June 8 and June 9, 2020.

4. Public Comment Period

Mr. Caluag called on public members that submitted Public Comment Cards to the Safe, Clean Water email prior to the meeting. See attachment for the Public Comment Cards and letters.

Ms. Effie Turnbull Sanders (South Los Angeles Transit Empowerment Zone) expressed support for a project that provides green space, water conservation, and connectivity among communities.

Mr. Shahriar Eftekharzadeh (SEITec) expressed concern and a series of questions on the WASC's evaluation of two infrastructure projects under SIP consideration.

Ms. Sherilyn Correa (City of Los Angeles – Council District 9), on behalf of Office Councilmember Curren D. Price, Jr., expressed support for one project under SIP consideration that will bring much needed investment for South Los Angeles.

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Mr. Edgar Campos (T.R.U.S.T. South Los Angeles) expressed support for the Active Transportation Rail to River Corridor Project investments because of the region's great need of parks and open space and requests.

Mr. Dustin Bambic (Water Resources Engineer) expressed concern for the WASC's process of considering Scientific Studies in the SIP from the project rankings.

Mr. Carlos Moran (TreePeople) expressed similar support for Active Transportation Rail to River Corridor Project investments as mentioned because its equitable distribution of resources for Angelinos.

District staff asked call-in users to speak, but had no response. The public comment letters are attached within these minutes.

5. Discussion Items

a) Ex Parte Communications

The WASC did not have any ex parte communication disclosures.

b) Populate the Stormwater Investment Plan planning tool

Mr. Caluag shared the SIP Planning Tool on the screen with the results that were discussed at the end of the last meeting. This SIP included all projects submitted to the Infrastructure Program and Technical Resources Program, three out of the five Scientific Studies, and three Watershed Coordinator positions. The funding percent allocation for Fiscal Year (FY) 20-21, FY 21-22, FY 22-23, FY 23-24 and FY 24-25 funding was 71 percent, 67 percent, 29 percent, 16 percent, and 10 percent, respectively.

Mr. Nahai reminded the WASC that the current SIP allows the WASC to fund almost all of the projects, while being below the 80 percent funding allocation for the first year. He added that the current SIP would allow for \$16.48M to be used to fund new projects after earmarking 67% of the funds for FY 21-22.

District staff reminded the WASC that the projects submitted to the Technical Resources Program may come to fruition into the Infrastructure Program around year three or four where there is a substantial amount of unallocated funds for future projects during years according to the current SIP.

c) Public Comment Period

Mr. Vic Bapna (CWE) explained why redistributing funds for the City of Fernando Regional Infiltration Project was not possible at this time.

Ms. Diana Mahmud (City of South Pasadena) expressed support for funding Scientific Studies and expressed concern about operation and maintenance costs in the future, which may not be supported by the current percent funding allocations shown on the SIP.

Mr. Shahriar Eftekhazadeh (SEITec) agreed with Ms. Diana Mahmud's comments and expressed support for a more conservative funding allocation.

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District staff asked call-in users to speak, but had no response

d) [Voting Item] – Confirm Final Stormwater Investment Plan

District staff shared a simplified version of the SIP to the WASC members prior to the meeting. The WASC expressed that it was a helpful tool for SIP discussion.

Mr. Nahai motioned to approve the SIP as shown. Ms. Teresa Villegas seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously. The recommended SIP is shown attached.

6. Break

The WASC did not take a break.

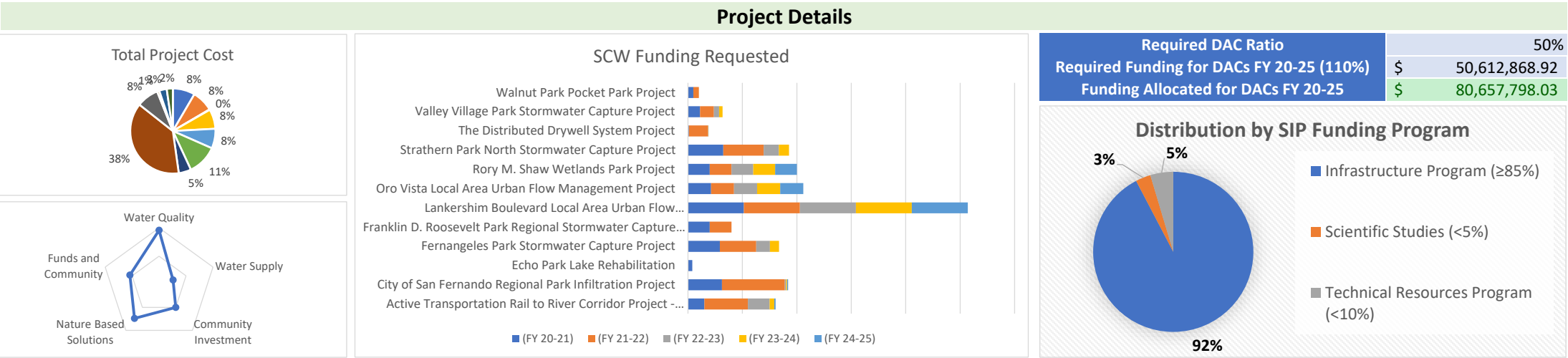
7. Items for next agenda

No items were discussed for the next agenda. It was stated there will not be a ULAR WASC meeting in June. The next ULAR WASC meeting will be tentatively scheduled if needed to address any recommendations provided by the ROC after they have reviewed the ULAR SIP.

Mr. Nahai invited the WASC members to join him at the ROC meetings. District staff will invite project applicants to the ROC meetings.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Nahai thanked the WASC members and public for their time and participation and adjourned the meeting.



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	\$38.63 M	\$38.63 M	\$38.63 M	\$38.63 M	\$38.63 M		\$193.13 M
B. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Available (A+D)	\$38.63 M	\$49.94 M	\$55.10 M	\$77.80 M	\$103.94 M		
C. Total Allocated in the SIP	\$27.32 M	\$33.46 M	\$15.93 M	\$12.48 M	\$10.10 M	\$0.38 M	\$99.29 M
D. Remaining Balance/Rollover Funds (B-C)	\$11.31 M	\$16.48 M	\$39.17 M	\$65.32 M	\$93.84 M		
E. Percent Allocated (C/B)	71%	67%	29%	16%	10%		51%

Row Labels	DAC	(FY 20-21)	(FY 21-22)	(FY 22-23)	(FY 23-24)	(FY 24-25)	Future Funding	TOTAL
Infrastructure Program		\$ 24,135,094.32	\$ 31,634,429.21	\$ 14,497,404.70	\$ 11,881,569.80	\$ 9,499,900.00	\$ 375,000.00	\$ 92,023,398.03
Active Transportation Rail to River	Yes	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 4,000,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 425,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 375,000.00	\$ 8,425,000.00
City of San Fernando Regional Park	Yes	\$ 3,115,000.00	\$ 5,785,000.00	\$ 100,400.00	\$ 100,400.00	\$ 100,400.00	\$ -	\$ 9,201,200.00
Echo Park Lake Rehabilitation	No	\$ 400,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400,000.00
Fernangeles Park Stormwater Capture	Yes	\$ 2,926,261.89	\$ 3,344,299.31	\$ 1,254,112.24	\$ 836,074.83	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,360,748.27
Franklin D. Roosevelt Park Regional Stormwater Capture	Yes	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000,000.00
Lankershim Boulevard Local Area Urban Flow Management	Yes	\$ 5,139,380.00	\$ 5,139,380.00	\$ 5,139,380.00	\$ 5,139,380.00	\$ 5,139,380.00	\$ -	\$ 25,696,900.00
Oro Vista Local Area Urban Flow Management	No	\$ 2,118,120.00	\$ 2,118,120.00	\$ 2,118,120.00	\$ 2,118,120.00	\$ 2,118,120.00	\$ -	\$ 10,590,600.00
Rory M. Shaw Wetlands Park Project	Yes	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000.00
Strathern Park North Stormwater Capture	Yes	\$ 3,247,511.94	\$ 3,711,442.21	\$ 1,391,790.83	\$ 927,860.55	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,278,605.53
The Distributed Drywell System Project	Yes	\$ 76,750.00	\$ 1,765,250.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,893,000.00
Valley Village Park Stormwater Capture	Yes	\$ 1,112,070.49	\$ 1,270,937.69	\$ 476,601.63	\$ 317,734.42	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,177,344.23
Walnut Park Pocket Park Project	Yes	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000.00
Scientific Studies		\$ 980,707.00	\$ 1,226,133.00	\$ 831,491.00			\$ -	\$ 3,038,331.00
LRS Adaptation to Address the LA River	(blank)	\$ 192,500.00	\$ 385,000.00	\$ 308,000.00			\$ -	\$ 885,500.00
preSIP: A Platform for Watershed Science	(blank)	\$ 700,000.00	\$ 700,000.00	\$ 400,000.00			\$ -	\$ 1,800,000.00
Recalculation of Wet Weather Zoning	(blank)	\$ 88,207.00	\$ 141,133.00	\$ 123,491.00			\$ -	\$ 352,831.00
Technical Resources Program		\$ 2,200,000.00	\$ 600,000.00	\$ 600,000.00	\$ 600,000.00	\$ 600,000.00	\$ -	\$ 4,600,000.00
Green Street Demonstration Project	(blank)	\$ 300,000.00					\$ -	\$ 300,000.00
Hay Canyon Channel / FIS Sports Facility	(blank)	\$ 300,000.00					\$ -	\$ 300,000.00
Pasadena Unified School District	(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
Watershed Coordinator #2	(blank)	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00		\$ 1,000,000.00
Watershed Coordinator #3	(blank)	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00		\$ 1,000,000.00
Winery Canyon Channel / Descanso Gorge	(blank)	\$ 300,000.00					\$ -	\$ 300,000.00
Arroyo Seco Projects: Construction	(blank)	\$ 400,000.00					\$ -	\$ 400,000.00
Grand Total		\$ 27,315,801.32	\$ 33,460,562.21	\$ 15,928,895.70	\$ 12,481,569.80	\$ 10,099,900.00	\$ 375,000.00	\$ 99,661,729.03

**Upper Los Angeles River
Thursday, May 28, 2020**

	Quorum Present				Voting Items	
Member Type	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	Meeting Minutes	Confirm SIP
Agency	Gary Hildebrand	x	Genevieve Osmena		y	y
Agency	Delon Kwan	x	Art Castro		y	y
Agency	Paul Liu	x	Rafael Villegas		y	y
Agency	Alfredo Magallanes	x	Ariel Flores		y	y
Agency	Cathie Santo Domingo	x	Javier Solis			y
Community Stakeholder	Ernesto Pantoja	x	Sergio Rascon			y
Community Stakeholder	Miguel Luna	x	Yvette Lopez-Ledesma		y	y
Community Stakeholder	John Luker	x	Wendi Gladstone		y	y
Community Stakeholder	David Nahai	x	Jacob Lipa		y	y
Community Stakeholder	Veronica Padilla-Campos	x	Felipe Escobar		y	y
Municipal Members	Yazdan Emrani	x	Chris Chew		y	y
Municipal Members	Patrick DeChellis	x			y	y
Municipal Members	Barbara Romero		Teresa Villegas	x	y	y
Municipal Members	Ackley Padilla		Max Podemski			
Municipal Members	Jeff Camp		Rafael Prieto	x	y	y
Municipal Members	Paul Alva	x	TJ Moon		y	y
Municipal Members	Kris Markarian	x	Sean Singletary		y	y
Total Non-Vacant Seats	17			Yay (Y)	14	16
Total Voting Members Present	16			Nay (N)	0	0
Agency	5			Abstain (A)	0	0
Community Stakeholder	5			Total	14	16
Municipal Members	6				Approved	Approved

Attendees

Upper Los Angeles River WASC Meeting - May 28, 2020

Cantwella	John Luker	Duand Muller	KMarkarian
EPantoja	Aydin Pasebani	Duand Muller	Conor Mossavi - LADWP
Thuan Nguyen	Shahram Kharaghani	Chris Chew	Genevieve Osmena
Noel Langan	EPantoja	Cameron McCullough (JLHA)	Seth Carr
Sheila Brice	Seth Carr	Sarah Diringier	300542
BradWardynski	Dawn Petschauer	Jason Casanova	Rafael Prieto
TJ Moon - LA County	Sherilyn Correa	VBapna	Michael Gagan
eve sinclair	D Deets	Kirk Allen	Joe Venzon - LA County
Susie	call-in user_01	Wendi Gladstone	Chris Chew
Committee-Gary Hildebrand(27519		Jessica Quach	Yazdan Emrani
david nahai	Seth Carr	user10	Art
Katie Mika	Delon Kwan	Brianna Datti	36389
ptonth	Rafael Villegas	epantoja	Chad Helmle - Craftwater
53834	Teresa Villegas	PALVA	Chad Helmle - Craftwater
A Magallanes	Shahriar	Lynda	James Rasmus
Lauro Alvarado	David Dolphin	Carlos Moran	William O'Braitis
CJ Caluag - LACFCD	Duand Muller	Patrick DeChellis	Julian Lee
PALVA	Duand Muller	Mike Antos (Stantec)	volunteer
Default	Gregor Patsch - Torrent Resources	Paul Liu	Ariel Flores - LASAN
390000	OWENB	David	BW
Alvin Cruz	gjaquez	icesario	Noel Le
Tracey Chavira	Taraneh Nik-Khah	Katie Harrel	C O
Christine McLeod	82608	Katie Ward (SGVCOG)	chowk
Safe Clean Water LA	Dustin Bambic	Rafael Villegas	Vik Bapna - CWE
Safe Clean Water LA	Ann Bechtel	epantoja	Edgar Campos
D Deets	Paul Liu	bbaldauf	effietlaw
Evan Rosenberg	Joyce	Mackenzie Domann - LA County	Jon Ball
Diana Mahmud	Miguel Luna	Bronwyn Kelly	
Carmen Andrade	Mike Antos (Stantec)	Heather Repenning	



Date: _____

- *Per Brown Act, completing this information is optional. At a minimum, please include an identifier so that you may be called upon to speak.

Please complete this form and email to SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov by at least 5:00pm the day prior to the meeting with the following subject line: "Public Comment: [Watershed Area] [Meeting Date]" (ex. "Public Comment: USGR 4/8/20").

Comments

To review the guidance documents and for more information, visit www.SafeCleanWaterLA.org



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Comments

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Comments

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Board of Directors:

May 26, 2020

Benjamin Torres, Chair
Organizational Representative
(CD Tech)

Nancy H. Ibrahim, Vice Chair
Organizational Representative
(Esperanza Community Housing)

Araceli Alvarado, Secretary
General Representative

Nakea Brown, Treasurer
Lessee Representative

Alma Ruth Andrade,
General Representative

John London
General Representative

Maritza Lopez
General Representative

Emmanuel Louis
Lessee Representative

Rosa Perez
General Representative

Executive Team:

Edgar Campos
Executive Director

Oscar Monge
Associate Director

Arrens Castro
Finance Director

To: Safe, Clean Water Program Watershed Area Steering
Committee Upper Los Angeles River
Fr: Edgar Campos, T.R.U.S.T. South LA Executive Director
Re: Railway to River Project Investments

Dear Committee Members

T.R.U.S.T. South LA was established in 2005 as a permanent and democratic steward of land in South Los Angeles. Since its inception the group has expanded its community membership, has raised and dedicated millions in funds in its effort to improve the way of life for thousands of local residents, businesses, and stakeholders. T.R.U.S.T. South LA is a community-based effort that works to stabilize the neighborhoods south of Downtown LA, where increased property values and rents have pushed out many long-term residents. Our mission is to serve as a steward for community-controlled land; to be a catalyst for values-driven, community-serving development; to build awareness and community leadership in issues of housing, transportation and recreation; and to create programs and initiatives that encourage community building and economic opportunity.

On behalf of TRUST South LA and South L.A residents across the 8th and 9th District, I am writing to share that our region in the City of Los Angeles is in great need of parks and open space. According to the Parks Needs Assessment conducted by the County of Los Angeles in 2016 the majority of the district is in high need of additional park, recreation, and open space investments. Considering that parks are a key infrastructure element in improving the quality of life of the community. Residents are eager to identify new park locations and opportunities to bring in the necessary infrastructure improvements the area deserves. As example of our efforts we have put forward \$2M dollars towards acquisition and revitalizing a property adjacent to the railway. After decades post deindustrialization the Rail to Rail Active Transportation Corridor has sat blighted for decades after the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway Company abandoned their rail line and Metro subsequently acquired the right of way in hopes of future redevelopment. The railway extends from the soon to be completed Crenshaw/LAX line to the A-line station at Slauson and Long Beach Avenue.

Our members strongly support the Active Transportation Rail to River Corridor Project—Segment A and Segment B—for consideration of Measure W Regional Program funding. We believe this project will be transformational to our community by promoting economic opportunity and connectivity to green spaces in addition to enhancing water quality. We urge the Committee to consider an equity lens when discussion the communities served by this project and when determining the best use of these tax revenues. Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions edgar@trustsouthla.org.

Please see the attached stakeholder organizations below who have joined our call to action!

Thank you,

Edgar Campos

Executive Director
T.R.U.S.T. South LA

TRUST



T.R.U.S.T. SOUTH LA

TENEMOS QUE RECLAMAR Y UNIDOS SALVAR LA TIERRA

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John London
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Maritza Lopez
General Representative

Emmanuel Louis
Lessee Representative

Rosa Perez
General Representative

Executive Team:

Edgar Campos
Executive Director

Oscar Monge
Associate Director

Arrens Castro
Finance Director

Effie Turnbull Sanders
Executive Director
South Los Angeles Transit Empowerment Zone



SOUTH LOS ANGELES TRANSIT EMPOWERMENT ZONE

Eli Lipmen
Director of Development and Programming
MoveLA



Tori Kjer
Executive Director
Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust



Joe Donlin
Associate Director/Director of Equitable Development
Strategic Actions for a Just Economy



Charisse Bremond Weaver
CEO & President
Los Angeles Brotherhood Crusade



T.R.U.S.T.