

Safe, Clean Water Program

Lower San Gabriel River

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Meeting Minutes:

Wednesday, November 4, 2020
1:00pm-3:00pm
WebEx Meeting

Attendees:

Committee Members Present:

Julian Juarez (LA County Flood Control District)
Lyndsey Bloxom* (Water Replenishment District)
Kristen Ruffell (Sanitation Districts)
Meredith Reynolds* (City of Long Beach)
Dan Knapp (Conservation Corps of Long Beach)
Adam Galia (Resident)
Joseph Gonzalez* (Rivers Mountains Conservancy)
Mike O'Grady (Cerritos)

Delfino Consunji (Downey)
Lisa Ann Rapp (Lakewood)
Melissa You (Long Beach)
Bernie Iniguez (Bellflower)
Noe Negrete (La Mirada)
Vicki Smith (Whittier)

Committee Members Not Present:

Community Stakeholder Seat – TBD
Community Stakeholder Seat – TBD
Agency Seat – TBD

*Committee Member Alternate

See attached attendance report for full list of attendees

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Kevin Kim (District) called the meeting to order and welcomed the Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) and attendees. District summarized the Webex Event platform and the agenda. Introductions served as roll call of Committee members, and with a majority present, quorum was established. District reviewed the various WebEx housekeeping items for both the Committee members and the general public's participation and discussed the process for public comments.

Mr. Dan Knapp noted he would coordinate with the District to assign a new alternate for his seat.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 5, 2020

The District uploaded a copy of the meeting minutes from the previous meeting on the Safe Clean Water (SCW) website. Ms. Kristen Ruffell requested to remove duplicate names from the attendees list. Ms. Lisa Rapp motioned to approve the meeting with revisions, and Ms. Ruffell seconded.

The Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes as revised from May 5, 2020 (13 yes, unanimous)

3. Committee Member and District Updates

The District summarized the Call for Projects that closed on October 15. The Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) Project Portal was released as a tool to review the projects. The District summarized the Watershed Coordinator (WC) applications submitted. The District is evaluating proposals and developing

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an interview approach. The anticipated timeline is to complete evaluation of proposals by mid-November, conduct interviews with the WASC in December, and onboard WCs in February.

Municipalities must submit their signed transfer agreement, annual plan, resolution or authorization to the district to receive their local return. Upon review of the submitted documents, the District will disperse funds within 45 days after District's execution of the agreement or 14 days after receipt of the annual plan, whichever is greater. For the Regional Program Fund Transfer Agreements, the scopes of work is due end of November. In order to disperse Regional Program SCW funds, a signed transfer agreement, scope of work, resolution or authorization to execute the Fund Transfer Agreement, and CEQA determination (if applicable) is required. After review of the submitted documents, the District will disperse funds within 45 days after District's execution of the agreement.

4. Ex Parte Communication Disclosures

As Gateway Water Management Authority (GWMA) chair, Ms. Rapp participated in discussions with GWMA and Craftwater Engineering regarding two of the scientific study submittals.

Mr. Joseph Gonzalez noted Craftwater Engineering requested a support letter from the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA) to support two of their applications. Rivers Mountains Conservancy is a member of the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) and LCWA provided a general support letter for projects that improve water quality in the Los Cerritos Channel.

5. Public Comment Period

No public comment cards were received. Mr. Richard Watson and the District clarified the number of scientific studies in the current Call for Projects for the WASC.

6. Discussion Items

a) Safe, Clean Water Program updates, review of WASCs roles and responsibilities, schedule and timeline (Presentation by District and Stantec)

Ms. Melanie Morita (District) reviewed SCWP goals and themes. Mr. Mike Antos reviewed WASC roles and responsibilities and encouraged committee members review the WASC operating guidelines. He summarized the communities represented by the WASC, watershed management, and watershed coordination. The District summarized the WASC structure, regional program revenue, Fiscal Year (FY) 20-21 Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP), FY 21-22 call for projects, call for projects timeline, WC timeline, SIP process, programming guidelines, programming tools, and additional WASC member responsibilities.

Ms. Ruffell asked if the Program is collecting information on which cities are benefitting from the projects. The District responded that the project application was updated this year to collect which municipalities are in the project's capture area.

Ms. Rapp and the District clarified that the presentation will be posted on the SCWP website.

The District encouraged the WASC members to access the project applications and executive summaries via the Project Portal. Brown Act and Ex Parte communication guidelines are also available on the SCW website.

7. Voting Items:

a) Selection of Chair(s)

Ms. Rapp accepted nomination for chair and Ms. You accepted nomination for vice-chair.

Ms. Ruffell motioned to approve Ms. Rapp as Chair and Ms. You as Vice-chair, with Mr. Delfino Consunji seconding the motion.

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The committee voted to nominate Ms. Lisa Rapp as Chair and Ms. Melissa You as Vice-chair (13 yes, unanimous)

b) Send all completed feasibility studies to Scoring Committee for consideration

The WASC has the discretion to determine which projects to transmit to the scoring committee for scoring. The District suggested expediting the scoring process similar to the process conducted last year. The WASC could vote to send all the submitted projects to have the project scores verified by the Scoring Committee (SC) to be able to be considered for the SIP. Ms. Rapp motioned to send all five submitted Infrastructure Program (IP) projects to the SC, seconded by Ms. Meredith Reynolds.

The committee voted to send all completed IP projects to be scored by the Scoring Committee (13 Yes, unanimous)

8. Public Comment Period

In response to Mr. Watson's question, the District clarified the program revenue is somewhat fluid due to exemptions and credits, but program revenue is projected to be about \$280M for FY 2021-2022.

Ms. Rapp noticed Mr. Noe Negrete had joined the call and Mr. Negrete noted he would've voted 'yes' for both voting items.

9. Items for next agenda

Watershed Coordinator interviews are anticipated to be held in December. Scientific Study (SS) and Technical Resources Program (TRP) presentations may be available for the following meeting. Ms. Rapp asked if there would be SS or TRP evaluation guidance provided from the District. The District is working with County Counsel to hire an independent review panel to analyze and provide an opinion on the SSs. Also, the District hired as-needed consultants to develop the approved TRP projects from last year's SIPs.

Ms. Ruffell requested the District provide a summary of the SIP Programming Guidelines currently under development at one of the next meetings.

Ms. Reynolds mentioned a scheduling conflict with first Wednesdays of the month for Long Beach Parks members. Ms. Rapp noted a conflict for first Wednesday mornings of the month. Ms. Ruffell requested a Doodle poll for scheduling.

10. Adjournment

The District and Ms. Rapp thanked the committee members and public for their time and participation and adjourned the meeting.

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Quorum Present

Voting Items

(see meeting minutes for additional details)

Member Type	Position	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	Approve Meeting Minutes with revisions	Lisa Rapp - Chair/ Meliisa You - Vice Chair	Send all IP Projects to Scoring Committee
Agency	FCD	Julian Juarez	X	Carolina Hernandez		Y	Y	Y
Agency	Central Basin	Tammy Hierlihy						
Agency	Water Replenishment District	Diane Gatza		Lyndsey Bloxom	X	Y	Y	Y
Agency	Sanitation Districts	Kristen Ruffell	X	Mike Sullivan		Y	Y	Y
Agency	City of Long Beach Parks and Recreation	Stephen Scott		Meredith Reynolds	X	Y	Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	Dan Knapp	X			Y	Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Resident	Adam Galia	X	Thalia Campos		Y	Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Rivers Mountains Conservancy	Mark Stanley		Joseph Gonzalez	X	Y	Y	Y
Community Stakeholder								
Community Stakeholder								
Municipal Members	Cerritos	Mike O'Grady	X	Rebecca Scott		Y	Y	Y
Municipal Members	Downey	Delfino Consunji	X	Dan Mueller		Y	Y	Y
Municipal Members	Lakewood	Lisa Ann Rapp	X	Konya Vivanti		Y	Y	Y
Municipal Members	Long Beach	Melissa You	X	Alvin Papa		Y	Y	Y
Municipal Members	City of Bellflower	Bernie Iniguez	X	Glen Kau		Y	Y	Y
Municipal Members	Santa Fe Springs	Noe Negrete	X	Marlin Munoz				
Municipal Members	Whittier	Vicki Smith	X	Kyle Cason		Y	Y	Y
Total Non-Vacant Seats		15			Yay (Y)	13	13	13
Total Voting Members Present		14			Nay (N)	0	0	0
Agency		4			Abstain (A)	0	0	0
Community Stakeholder		3			Total	13	13	13
Municipal Members		7				Approved	Approved	Approved

Attendance
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Adam Galia	Kristen Ruffell
Aldair Sanchez	Lisa Rapp
Bernie Iniguez	Lonnie Chung
Blake Whittington	Lynda Bybee
Bryce Lee	Lyndsey Bloxom
Cecilia Salazar	MELISSA YOU
Chris Jansen	Meredith Reynolds
Cristian Duran	Michelle Kim
Dan Knapp	Mike Antos
David Anderson	Mike O'Grady
Delfino Consunji	Noe Negrete
Fernando Villaluna	Oliver Galang
Grace Kast	Richard Watson
Inland Engineering Consultants	Roberto Gomez
Iwen Tseng	Stephanie Tong - LACFCD
Joe Gonzalez	Thalia Campos
john HUNTER	Tori Klug
Julian Juarez	Traci Gleason
KEKOA ANDERSON	Vicki Smith
Kevin Kim - LACFCD	Wataru Kumagai
Kirk Allen	youssef chebabi
Konya Vivanti	