

Safe, Clean Water Program

North Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Meeting Minutes:

Thursday, November 16, 2020
2:00pm - 4:30pm
WebEx Meeting

Attendees

Committee Members Present:

Cung Nguyen (LA County Flood Control District)
David Pedersen (LVMWD)
Dave Roberts (LVMWD)
Madelyn Glickfeld (UCLA)
Tevin Schmitt (WCFVC)
Kirsten James (Resident)
Jessica Forte (Agoura Hills)

Alex Farassati (Calabasas)
Joe Bellomo* (Hidden Hills)
Sophie Freeman* (LA County Supervisor District 3)
Bruce Hamamoto (LA County)
Mark Johnson (Malibu)
Roxanne Hughes (Westlake Village)
Kendal Asuncion* (LA Area Chamber of Commerce)

Committee Members Not Present:

David Rydman (LA County – Waterworks District) Chad Christensen (MRCA)

*Committee Member Alternate

See attached WebEx sign-in sheet for full list of attendees.

1. Welcome and Introductions

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

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

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 23, 2020

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

Bruce Hamamoto noted that in item 5c, County will be using its municipal funds to leverage its funds for other projects.

Alex Farassati made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Roxanne Hughes seconded the motion. The Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes (Unanimous).

3. Committee Member and District Updates

Kirk Allen provided updates from the District, noting: Transfer Agreements have been sent to all cities, and several cities have already sent back their annual plans; the County BOS adopted the 2020-21 SIP; and all template agreements have been sent to regional project developers.

4. Public Comment Period

No public comments received.

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5. Discussion Items

a) Ex Parte Communications Disclosure

Jessica Forte, David Pedersen, and Madelyn Glickfeld have had conversations to discuss potential project options for NSMB.

Joe Bellomo and Alex Farassati have had outside discussions to discuss a new chair for NSMB.

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

The District and Stantec provided a summary of the latest District updates, WASC roles, and schedule for the new year. (See attached presentation pdf)

c) Review of Process and Timeline to Select a Watershed Coordinator

The District provided an update to the process and timeline to interview for the Watershed Coordinators, which will begin in December. Committee members discussed potential members that would be able to attend the upcoming planned meetings and would be able to review and provide a ranked list of their preferred candidates. The District noted that it would not be possible to fast track one WASC over another, as all Watershed Coordinators have to be considered in one batch.

d) Review of Projects submitted for Year 2 of Regional Program

The District showcased the projects, concepts, and studies submitted for this year's second round call for projects on the SCW Program Data Portal. The SCW Program Data Portal can be found on the www.safecleanwaterla.org website under the Regional Program > Projects tab.

e) Debrief on October 29, 2020 Regional Oversight Committee Meeting

The District provided an overview of the October 29 ROC meeting. For additional details for the meeting, please see the meeting minutes for the October 29 ROC meeting on the SCW website. The committee discussed the ROC's five specific areas that would improve the program. The five areas included: Programming Partial Funding; Applying consistent Disadvantaged Community Benefits program policies; strengthening community engagement and support; clarifying prioritization of Nature-Based Solutions; and Understanding Water Supply Benefits.

Madelyn Glickfeld wanted to stress that the committee members become familiar with these five items as these will be critical for the NSMB WASC, with special emphasis to partial funding, Nature-based solutions, and how to claim water supply benefits. Madelyn Glickfeld requested that the District provide presentations from subject matter experts to provide guidance on these items.

6. Voting Items

a) Selection of Chair, Co-Chairs, and/or Vice Chair

David Pedersen offered to continue on as Chair. Madelyn Glickfeld offered to continue on as Vice Chair.

Jessica Forte made a motion to approve. Cung Nguyen seconded the motion. The Committee voted to approve (Unanimous). Dave Roberts was not present for voting.

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

Alex Farassati made a motion to approve. Roxanne Hughes seconded the motion. The Committee voted to approve (Unanimous). Dave Roberts was not present for voting.

c) Authorization to prepare draft letter from WASC on Elements of Clarification for FY2021-22 SIP Programming Guidelines

David Pedersen committed to working with Madelyn Glickfeld to draft this letter ahead of the next NSMB WASC meeting. Jessica Forte noted that she would be willing to assist with the drafting of this letter.

Roxanne Hughes made a motion to approve. Kirsten James seconded the motion. The Committee voted to approve (Unanimous).

7. Meeting Schedule

David Pedersen noted that a survey is underway to determine committee member availability to establish reoccurring meetings. The District noted that it would soon be providing an update on the outcome of that survey.

8. Items for next agenda

David Pedersen wanted to include additional information on the Watershed Coordinator effort, as well as the additional programming guidance.

Cung Nguyen wanted to discuss the staff memo at the next meeting, in addition to the draft letter.

9. Adjournment

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

NORTH SANTA MONICA BAY WASC MEETING - November 16, 2020		
	Quorum Present	Voting Items

Member Type	Organization	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	Meeting Minutes	Voting Item 1 Selection of Chairs	Voting Item 2 Send FS's to SC	Voting Item 3 Draft Letter to Clarify SIP
Agency	LACFCD	Cung Nguyen	X	Carolina Hernandez		Y	Y	Y	Y
Agency	LAC Waterworks	Dave Rydman		Russ Bryden					
Agency	MRCA	Chad Christensen		Sarah Rascon					
Agency	LVMWD	David Pedersen	X	Dave Roberts		Y	Y	Y	Y
Agency	LVMWD	David Pedersen		Dave Roberts	X	Y	Not Present	Not Present	Y
Community	UCLA	Madelyn Glickfeld	X	Richard Ambrose		Y	Y	Y	Y
Community									
Community	LA Area Chamber of	Jessica Duboff		Kendal Asuncion	X	Y	Y	Y	Y
Community	Wishtoyo Chumash	Tevin Schmitt	X			Y	Y	Y	Y
Community		Kirsten James	X	Fran Diamond		Y	Y	Y	Y
Municipal	Agoura Hills	Jessica Forte	X	Louis Celaya		Y	Y	Y	Y
Municipal	Calabasas	Alex Farassati	X	Alba Lemus		Y	Y	Y	Y
Municipal	Hidden Hills	Kerry Kallman		Joe Bellomo	X	Y	Y	Y	Y
Municipal	LAC Supervisor District	Katy Yaroslavsky		Sophie Freeman	X	Y	Y	Y	Y
Municipal	LAC Public Works	Bruce Hamamoto	X	Allen Ma		Y	Y	Y	Y
Municipal	Malibu	Mark Johnson	X	Christine Shen		Y	Y	Y	Y
Municipal	Westlake Village	Roxanne Hughes	X	Phillipe Eskandar		Y	Y	Y	Y
Total Non-Vacant Seats		16			Yay (Y)	14	13	13	14
Total Voting Members Present		14			Nay (N)	0	0	0	0
Agency		3			Abstain (A)	0	0	0	0
Community Stakeholder		4			Total	14	13	13	14
Municipal Members		7				Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved

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WASC Roles and Responsibilities

Bring **together** each members' personal **experiences, expertise, and perspectives** in a collaborative setting to put forth the **best multi-benefit projects** for the region that addresses the **Watershed Area's priorities and needs**, meets the **SCW Program Goals**, and demonstrates a **fiscally responsible and balanced use of SCW funds**.

- Meet, confer, coordinate, collaborate, and cooperate with one another, in good faith
- Share expertise and provide guidance, and information
- Develop annual SIP so to benefit stakeholder perspectives.

Refer to WASC Operating Guidelines for additional details

Internal SCW Program Discussion

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The communities you represent



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- Most of the 10 million people in Los Angeles County
 - About half of whom live in low-income and pollution burdened census areas
- If a state, LA County would be 10th largest.
- 1 in 35 Americans
- >\$700 Billion in economic activity annually

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The communities you represent



Internal SCW Program Discussion

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- Have decided to invest in improving environmental water quality (as required by MS4 permits)
- The decision included, however, ensuring the investments were community enhancing and job creating, overcoming of injustices and enhancing of water supply resilience.

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Watershed Management in the SCWP

- Watershed Management encompasses
 - How challenges and opportunities resolve at water scales, not political scales
 - Upstream impacts downstream
 - Understanding and mimicking the system-of-systems that engages water, land, biology, policy, infrastructure, etc.
- Watershed Coordination
 - Relationships between people, and good communication are necessary
 - Listening to community expertise, developing investments that align with what the community requests

Internal SCW Program Discussion

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WASC Structure

Member Type	Position
Agency	Flood Control District
Agency	Water Agency
Agency	Groundwater / Water Agency 2
Agency	Sanitation
Agency	Open Space
Community Stakeholder	At Large
Community Stakeholder	At Large
Community Stakeholder	Environmental
Community Stakeholder	Business
Community Stakeholder	Environmental Justice
Municipal Members	
Municipal Members	
Municipal Members	
Municipal Members	
Municipal Members	
Municipal Members	
Municipal Members	

Chair/Co-Chairs: Represent the Committee and facilitate Committee and Meetings

Vice-Chair: Support the Chair with their responsibilities and act on behalf in case of an absence of the Chair

District Staff: Assist with meetings and administer the SCW Program

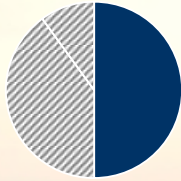
Each committee member should assign an **Alternate** to attend on behalf of the **Primary** in case of an absence.

Internal SCW Program Discussion

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Regional Program



50% Program revenue

Provides funding for multi-benefit watershed-based projects

WATERSHED AREA	ANNUAL RETURN
Central Santa Monica Bay	\$17.3 Million
Lower Los Angeles River	\$12.4 Million
Lower San Gabriel River	\$16.4 Million
North Santa Monica Bay	\$1.8 Million
Rio Hondo	\$11.3 Million
Santa Clara River	\$5.8 Million
South Santa Monica Bay	\$17.6 Million
Upper Los Angeles River	\$37.6 Million
Upper San Gabriel River	\$18.5 Million

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Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) FY 2020-2021

Board of Supervisors approved the 9 SIPs on October 13th

Program	Total SCW Funding Allocated FY20-25	Projects Submitted	Projects Recommended
Infrastructure Program (>85%)	\$358.2 M	58	41
Technical Resources Program (≤10%)	\$16.4 M	21	16
Scientific Studies Program (≤5%)	\$4.3 M	7	4
TOTAL	\$378.9 M	86	61

Forty-One Infrastructure Program Projects will:

- Capture stormwater from over 61,000 acres
- Reduce pollutants and support MS4 compliance
- Leverages nearly \$340M in other funding
- Includes 37 projects providing at least 3 community investment benefits
- Invests in projects benefiting members of disadvantaged communities
- Will be spread across 21 Municipalities, but benefitting the whole region
- Includes 37 projects incorporating natural processes or natural materials

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Call for Projects FY 2021-2022

Call for Projects closed on October 15th

Program	Total SCW Funding Requested	Projects Submitted
Infrastructure Program (>85%)	\$547.4 M	62
Technical Resources Program (≤10%)	\$13.1 M	9
Scientific Studies Program (≤5%)	\$4.2 M	14
TOTAL	\$564.7 M	85

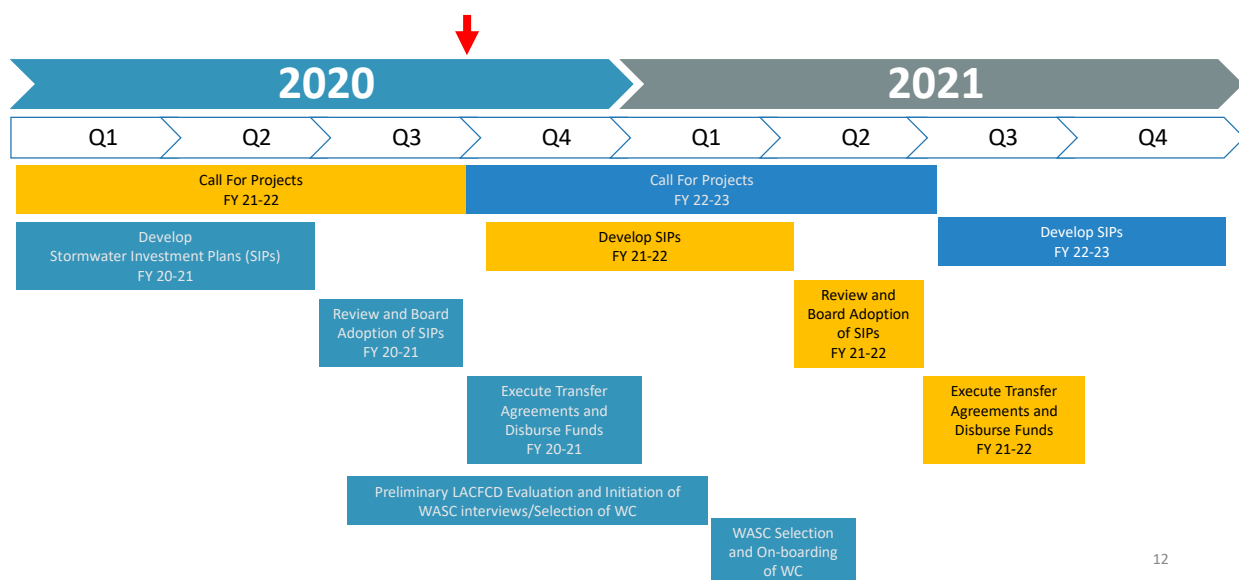
Watershed Area	Approximate Number of IP Projects
Central Santa Monica Bay	9
Lower Los Angeles River	8
Lower San Gabriel River	5
North Santa Monica Bay	2
Rio Hondo	9
Santa Clara River	0
South Santa Monica Bay	7
Upper Los Angeles River	16
Upper San Gabriel River	6
Grand Total	62

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Call for Projects and Timeline



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Watershed Coordinator Timeline

- The Qualified Proposers will be invited to provide a presentation of their Capabilities and Qualifications to the applicable WASC who will conduct an interview at a public meeting to select the Watershed Coordinator(s) in November/December.

Milestone	Anticipated Completion Date
WASC Interviews	December 2020
Execution of Agreement	January 2021
Start of Agreement	February 2021

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Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs)

Current Year:

- 5 year plan
- Assign funding for
 - Infrastructure Program
 - Technical Resource Program
 - Scientific Studies Program
- Budget for current year is transferred to Project Developers subject to the transfer agreement

	(FY 21-22) Regional Program Budget	(FY 22-23) Projection	(FY 23-24) Projection	(FY 24-25) Projection	(FY 25-26) Projection
Infrastructure Program (not less than 85%)					
Project 1					
Project 2					
Project 3					
Project 4					
Project 5					
Scientific Studies (up to 5%)					
Special Study					
Monitoring					
Technical Resources Program (up to 10%)					
Feasibility Study 1					
Feasibility Study 2					
Feasibility Study 3					
Watershed Coordinator					
Grand Total					

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FY 21-22 SIP Programming Guidelines

- The 85%/10%/5% ratios, DAC benefits, Municipality benefits, and spectrum of project types and sizes will be **evaluated over a rolling 5-yr period**.
- WASCs have set the precedent of **reserving budget** to allow SIPs to handle unexpected decreases in revenue in the program, and so future project proponents have available resources.

Technical Resource Program

Infrastructure Program

Scientific Studies Program

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FY 21-22 SIP Programming Guidelines

- The District has committed to complete feasibility studies for a rate of **\$300,000** to be approved and budgeted in the SIP.
- A placeholder of **\$200,000** shall be programmed in the current SIP for **watershed coordinator** services.
 - (for Upper LA River and Central Santa Monica Bay WASCs it is \$200,000 per coordinator)

Technical Resource Program

Infrastructure Program

Scientific Studies Program

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FY 21-22 SIP Programming Guidelines

- The District intends to develop and include additional guidelines for FY 21-22 which will be available for public review.
 - This includes guidance for allocating partial funding, documenting disadvantaged communities benefits, assessing Nature-Based Solutions, Community Engagement and Water Supply benefit.
 - Once available, adopted guidance could inform governance committee discussions, begin establishing standard terminology, and be fully available for Round 3 considerations.

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SCW Portal

SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

HOME DASHBOARD REPORTING APPLY

Welcome to the Safe Clean Water Portal

Learn about Safe Clean Water Program projects, benefits and expenditures. We are protecting public health and our environment while maximizing a cleaner, locally-controlled water supply.

Find a project

Search

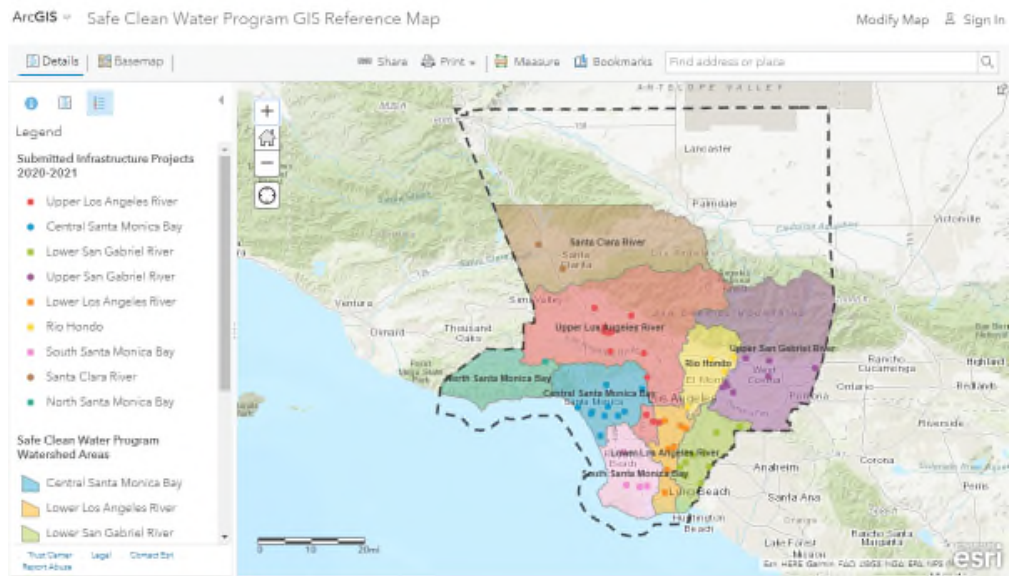
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GIS Reference Map



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Project Module



Welcome to
Safe Clean Water
Regional Program
Projects Module



Login

Email

Password

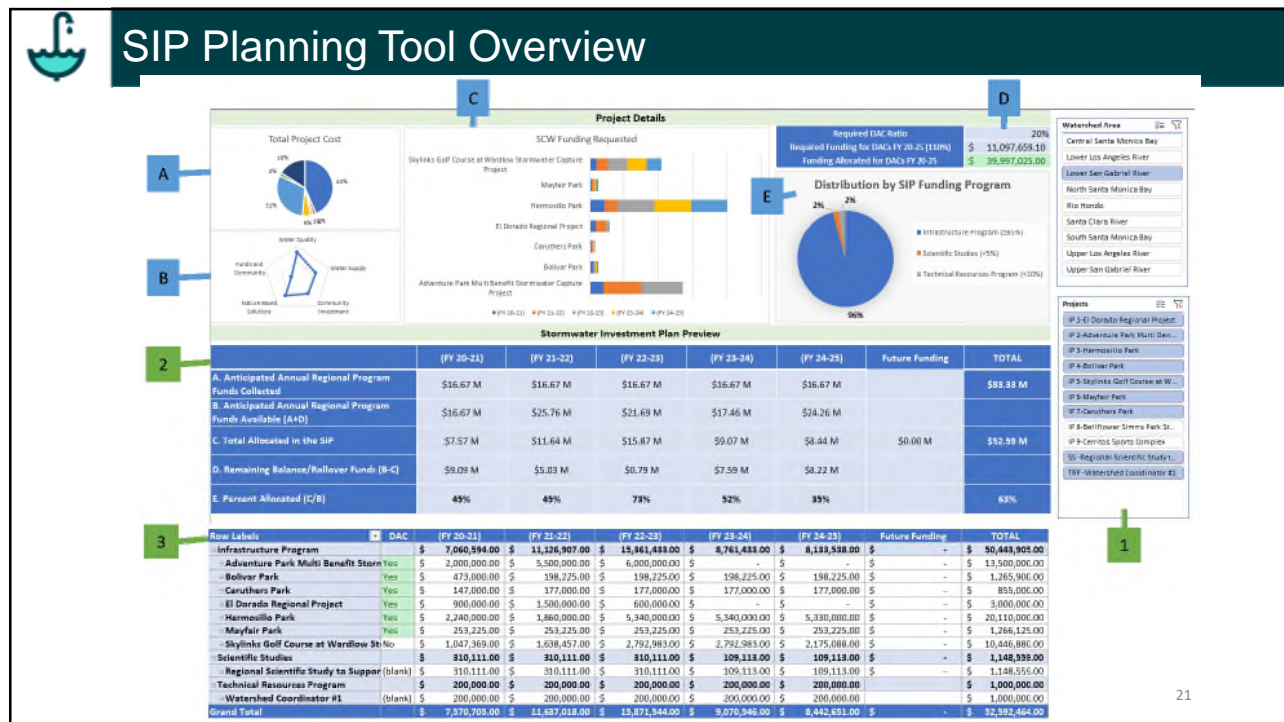
Sign Up

Forgot Password?

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WASC Operating Guidelines – Additional Responsibilities

- **Meetings**
 - Each WASC shall hold regular public meetings, no less than quarterly.
 - An absence of **two** consecutive meetings or more than **three** meetings in one year will make the member eligible for removal from the WASC.
 - WASC meetings are subject to the **Brown Act**.
- **Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports**
 - WASCs are responsible for reviewing quarterly progress and expenditure reports submitted by project developers for funded projects.
- **Watershed Area Regional Program Progress Reports**
 - District staff will prepare a draft WARPP report on behalf of each WASC. Each WASC will be responsible for review and approval of the WARPP before submittal of the report of the ROC.
 - First WARRP report is due 6/30/22

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Links to important tasks and documents for reference

- Designation of Alternate Member (Please notify District staff via email)
- [Regional Program Committee Handbook](#)
- [Ex Parte Communication Guidelines](#)
- [WASC Acknowledgment Form](#) (Please complete and submit to District staff)
- [Conflict of Interest \(COI\) Training Video](#) (online)
 - [COI Training Slides](#)
 - [COI - Q & A \(updated 1/16/2020\)](#)
 - [COI - Acknowledgement Form](#)
- [Expectations of Chair, Co-Chair, and/or Vice Chair](#)
- [Overview of the Safe, Clean Water Program](#) (presentation)
- [SCW Portal](#)
- [Video Conference Guidelines](#)
- [Supplemental Documents and Online Resources](#)

Internal SCW Program Discussion

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Discussion

Contact the program team at:
www.SafeCleanWaterLA.org
SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov
 1-833-ASK-SCWP (1-833-275-7297)

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