

Safe, Clean Water Program

South Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Meeting Minutes:

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

1:00pm - 3:00pm

WebEx Meeting

Attendees

Committee Members Present:

Cung Nguyen (LA County Flood Control District)

EJ Caldwell (West Basin)

Diane Gatza (Water Replenishment District)

Kristen Ruffell (Sanitation Districts)

Darryl Ford* (Los Angeles Rec & Park)

Guang Yu Wang (SMB Restoration Commission)

Hany Fangary (Fangary Law Group)

Wendy Butts (LA Conservation Corps)

Julio Gonzalez (Carson)

Susie Santilena (LA)

TJ Moon (LA County)

John Dettle (Torrance)

Stephanie Katsouleas (Manhattan Beach)

Heecheol Kwon (Hawthorne)

Ken Rukavina (Palos Verdes Estates)

Committee Members Not Present:

Craig Cadwallader (Surfrider Foundation South Bay)

*Committee Member Alternate

See attached sign-in sheet for full list of attendees

1. Welcome and Introductions

Diane Gatza, Chair of the South Santa Monica Bay WASC, called the meeting to order.

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

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 20, 2020

The District provided a copy of the meeting minutes from the previous meeting. Diane Gatza asked the committee members for comments or revisions.

Ken Rukavina made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Cung Nguyen seconded the motion. The Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes. (unanimous).

3. Committee Member and District Updates

Kirk Allen provided the District update, noting: Watershed Coordinator solicitation closed with 67 applications, the next steps will be for the WASCs to review and rank these applications; 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.

Safe, Clean Water Program

South Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



5. Discussion Items:

a) Ex Parte Communication Disclosures

No Ex Parte Communication Disclosures received.

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) Member Seat Vacancies

i) Reference - WASC Operating Guidelines (Page 6, Section 5 of Article IV - Term Lengths and Vacancies)

The District noted that there is a vacancy currently on the Community Stakeholder block of members. This vacancy will be filled by the Board of Supervisors, and the District will keep the SSMB WASC updated.

Susie Santilena and EJ Caldwell requested additional information related to the Q&A and alternate replacement processes for members. The District let the committee know these processes can be found within the Committee Member handbook.

6. Public Comment Period

No public comments received.

7. Voting Items

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

Diane Gatza noted she is not able to participate as Chair for this year.

Diane Gatza noted that Craig Cadwallader was willing to stay on as a vice chair.

John Dettle nominated Kristen Ruffell to be chair. Kristen Ruffell noted she would be willing to participate as chair.

Kristen Rukavina Ruffell nominated Ken Rukavina to be chair. Ken Rukavina noted that he would not be able to commit to the position.

Diane Gatza nominated Susie Santilena for chair. Susie Santilena noted that she would not be able to commit to the position, but would be available for a vice chair position.

Guangyu Wang nominated Cung Nguyen to be chair. Cung Nguyen noted he would be unable to commit to the position with his role on two other WASCs.

Hany Fangary nominated Craig Cadwallader as chair. Hany Fangary withdrew his nomination.

This voting item has been held until next meeting.

Safe, Clean Water Program

South Santa Monica Bay

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



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

Kristen Ruffell made a motion to approve the voting item. Guangyu Wang seconded the motion. The Committee voted to approve voting item 7b. (unanimous)

8. Items for next agenda

Voting item 7a will be held until the next meeting.

9. Adjournment

Kirk Allen thanked the committee members and public for their time and participation and adjourned the meeting.

SOUTH SANTA MONICA BAY WASC MEETING - November 18, 2020

		Quorum Present				Voting Items		
Member Type	Organization	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	Meeting Minutes	Voting Item 7a (HELD)	Voting Item 7b
Agency	LACFCD	Cung Nguyen	X	Carolina Hernandez		Y		Y
Agency	West Basin MWD	E.J. Caldwell	X	Alex Heide		Y		Y
Agency	Water Replenishment District	Diane Gatz	X	Lyndsey Bloxom		Y		Y
Agency	LAC Sanitation District	Kristen Ruffell	X	Mike Sullivan		Y		Y
Agency	LA Recreation & Parks	Cathie Santo Domingo		Darryl Ford	X	Y		Y
Community								
Community	Surfrider Foundation South Bay	Craig Cadwallader		Mary Simun				
Community	Santa Monica Bay Restoration	Guang Yu Wang	X			Not Present		Y
Community	Fangary Law Group	Hany Fangary	X	Justin Massey		Y		Y
Community	Los Angeles Conservation	Wendy Butts	X	Bo Savage		Y		Y
Municipal	Carson	Julio Gonzalez	X	Maria E. Williams-		Y		Y
Municipal	Los Angeles	Susie Santilena	X	Ilene Ramirez		Y		Y
Municipal	LAC Public Works	TJ Moon	X	Thuan Nguyen		Y		Y
Municipal	Torrance	John Dettle	X	Wilson Mendoza		Y		Y
Municipal	EWMP: Beach Cities	Stephanie Katsouleas	X	Shaw Igoe		Y		Y
Municipal	EWMP: Dominguez	Heecheol Kwon	X	Mitchell Wagner		Y		Y
Municipal	EWMP: Peninsula	Ken Rukavina	X	David Wahba		Y		Y
Total Non-Vacant Seats		16			Yay (Y)	14	0	15
Total Voting Members Present		15			Nay (N)	0	0	0
Agency		5			Abstain (A)	0	0	0
Community Stakeholder		3			Total	14	0	15
Municipal Members		7				Approved	Not Approved	Approved

Other Attendees
Aaron Chiang
Brenda Morales
Christine McLeod
David Angel
Gus Orozco
Ilene Ramirez
Jacqueline Mak
Jon Abelson
Katie M
Lauren Amimoto
Mercedes Passanisi
Michael Scaduto
Michelle Staffield
Nate Schreiner
Phuoc Le
Shahram Kharagani
Sheila Brice
Susan Robinson
Taraneh Nik-Khah
Thuan Nguyen
Wilson Mendoza



1

Regional issues...

- 1 Improve Water Quality
- 2 Increase Local Water Supply
- 3 Enhance Communities

**Capture
Clean
Conserve**

...Regional solutions

2

Themes of Safe, Clean Water Program

<p>Collaboration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Developed & implemented with diverse stakeholders ❖ Unique dedicated funding for multi-benefit stormwater projects ❖ Comprehensive and diverse governance committees 	<p>Asset Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Funding for operation and maintenance ❖ Investments for long-term sustainability and resiliency ❖ Emphasis on Nature-Based Solutions 	<p>Equity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Dedicated investments into Disadvantaged Communities ❖ Watershed Coordinators build inclusion and connect communities with resources ❖ Technical Assistance 	<p>Good Stewardship of Public Funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Accountability ❖ Transparency ❖ Reporting & Auditing ❖ Comprehensive tax relief options 	<p>Education & Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Public & School Education ❖ Workforce Training ❖ Collaboration with other programs ❖ Community engagement throughout project stages
--	---	--	---	---

3

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 4

4



The communities you represent



Internal SCW Program Discussion

5

- 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

5



The communities you represent



Internal SCW Program Discussion

6

- 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.

6



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

7



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	

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

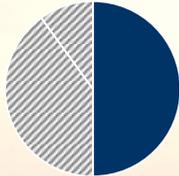
Vice-Chair: Support the Chair with their responsibilities and act on behalf in case of an absence of the Chair

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.

8

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

9



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

10

10



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

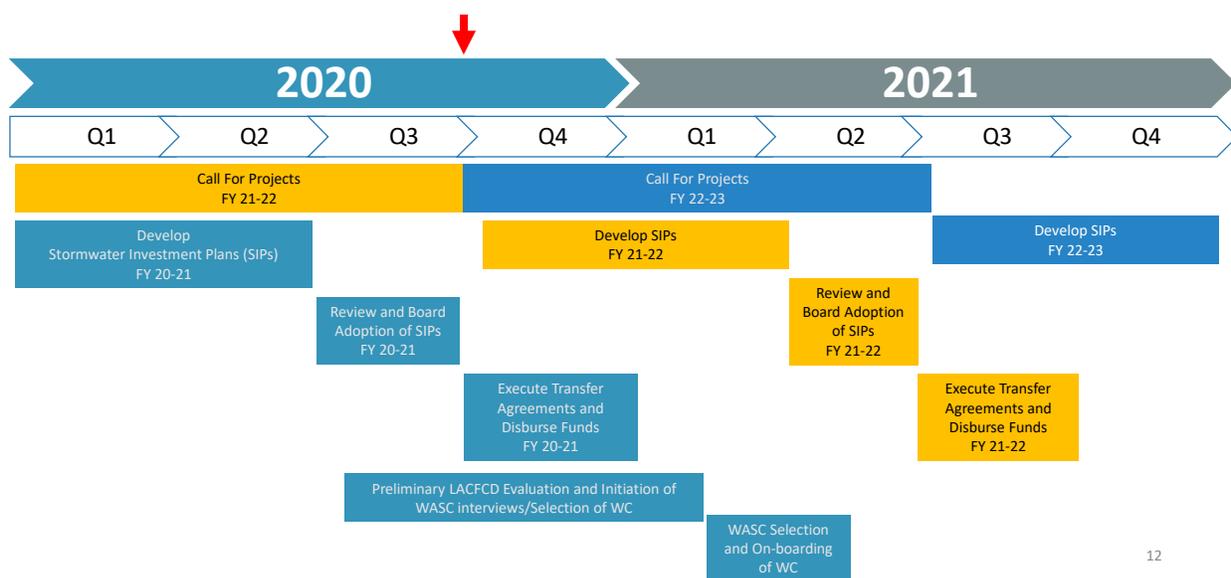
Watershed Area	Approximate Number of IP Projects
Central Santa Monica Bay	9
Lower Los Angeles River	8
Lower San Gabriel River	5
North Santa Monica Bay	2
Rio Hondo	9
Santa Clara River	0
South Santa Monica Bay	7
Upper Los Angeles River	16
Upper San Gabriel River	6
Grand Total	62

11

11



Call for Projects and Timeline



12

12



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

13



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					

14



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

15

15



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

16

16



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.

17

17



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

Internal SCW Program Discussion

18

18



GIS Reference Map

ArcGIS Safe Clean Water Program GIS Reference Map

Modify Map Sign In

Details Basemap

Share Print Measure Bookmarks Find address or place

Legend

Submitted Infrastructure Projects 2020-2021

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

Safe Clean Water Program Watershed Areas

- Central Santa Monica Bay
- Lower Los Angeles River
- Lower San Gabriel River

That's Done! Legal Contact Us Report Abuse

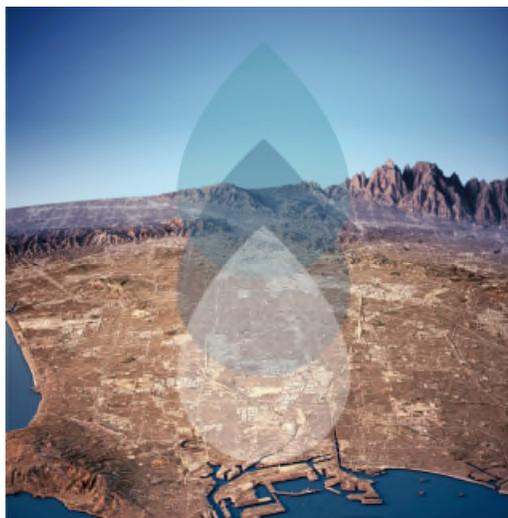
Internal SCW Program Discussion

19

19



Project Module



Welcome to Safe Clean Water Regional Program Projects Module

Login

Email: _____

Password: _____

Sign Up: [Login](#)

[Forgot Password?](#)

Internal SCW Program Discussion

20

20

SIP Planning Tool Overview

A

B

2

3

Project Details

Total Project Cost

SCW Funding Requested

Required DAC Ratio

Required Funding for DACs FY 20-25 (110M) \$ 11,097,659.10

Funding Allocated for DACs FY 20-25 \$ 35,997,023.00

20%

Distribution by SIP Funding Program

	(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	\$16.67 M		\$83.33 M				
B. Anticipated Annual Regional Program Funds Available (A+B)	\$16.67 M	\$25.76 M	\$21.69 M	\$17.46 M	\$14.26 M		\$95.85 M
C. Total Allocated in the SIP	\$7.57 M	\$11.64 M	\$15.87 M	\$9.07 M	\$8.44 M	\$0.00 M	\$52.99 M
D. Remaining Balance/Rollover Funds (B-C)	\$9.09 M	\$5.83 M	\$6.79 M	\$7.99 M	\$8.22 M		
E. Percent Allocated (C/B)	45%	45%	73%	52%	59%		63%

Row Labels	DAC	(FY 20-21)	(FY 21-22)	(FY 22-23)	(FY 23-24)	(FY 24-25)	Future Funding	TOTAL
Infrastructure Program		\$ 7,060,594.00	\$ 11,126,907.00	\$ 15,861,833.00	\$ 8,781,433.00	\$ 8,133,538.00	\$ -	\$ 50,443,905.00
Adventure Park Multi Benefit Storm	Yes	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 5,500,000.00	\$ 6,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,500,000.00
Mayfair Park	Yes	\$ 473,000.00	\$ 198,225.00	\$ 198,225.00	\$ 198,225.00	\$ 198,225.00	\$ -	\$ 1,265,900.00
Caruthers Park	Yes	\$ 147,000.00	\$ 177,000.00	\$ 177,000.00	\$ 177,000.00	\$ 177,000.00	\$ -	\$ 855,000.00
El Dorado Regional Project	Yes	\$ 900,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 600,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000.00
Hermosa Park	Yes	\$ 2,340,000.00	\$ 1,860,000.00	\$ 5,340,000.00	\$ 5,340,000.00	\$ 5,330,000.00	\$ -	\$ 20,110,000.00
Mayfair Park	Yes	\$ 253,225.00	\$ 253,225.00	\$ 253,225.00	\$ 253,225.00	\$ 253,225.00	\$ -	\$ 1,266,125.00
Skylinks Golf Course at Warflow St	No	\$ 1,047,369.00	\$ 1,638,457.00	\$ 2,792,983.00	\$ 2,792,983.00	\$ 2,175,088.00	\$ -	\$ 10,446,886.00
Scientific Studies		\$ 310,111.00	\$ 310,111.00	\$ 310,111.00	\$ 109,113.00	\$ 109,113.00	\$ -	\$ 1,148,556.00
Regional Scientific Study to Support	(blank)	\$ 310,111.00	\$ 310,111.00	\$ 310,111.00	\$ 109,113.00	\$ 109,113.00	\$ -	\$ 1,148,556.00
Technical Resources Program		\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000.00
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		\$ 7,270,709.00	\$ 11,827,018.00	\$ 15,871,844.00	\$ 9,270,346.00	\$ 8,443,851.00	\$ -	\$ 52,382,464.00

D

E

1

21

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

Internal SCW Program Discussion 22

22



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

23

23



24