

Safe, Clean Water Program

Lower San Gabriel River Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Meeting Minutes:

Tuesday, June 8, 2021
10:00am – 12:00pm
WebEx Meeting

Attendees

Committee Members Present:

Julian Juarez (LA County Flood Control District)	Gabrielle Weeks (Long Beach Coalition for a Safe Environment)
Jeremy Melendez* (Central Basin)	Mike O'Grady (Cerritos)
Lyndsey Bloxom* (Water Replenishment District)	Delfino Consunji (Downey)
Kristen Ruffell (LA County Sanitation Districts)	Lisa Ann Rapp (Lakewood)
Nancy Villaseñor* (Long Beach Parks and Recreation)	Melissa You (Long Beach)
Dan Knapp (Conservation Corps of Long Beach)	Bernie Iniguez (Bellflower)
Adam Galia (Resident)	
Joseph Gonzalez* (Rivers Mountains Conservancy)	

Committee Members Not Present:

Noe Negrete (Santa Fe Springs)
Vicki Smith (Whittier)

*Committee Member Alternate

See attached attendance report for full list of attendees

1. Welcome and Introductions

Lisa Ann Rapp, the Chair of Lower San Gabriel River (LSGR) WASC welcomed WASC members and called the meeting to order. She discussed WebEx functions and the public comment process. Kevin Kim (District) facilitated the roll call, and quorum was established.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 11, 2021

The District provided a copy of the meeting minutes from the previous meeting. Lisa Ann Rapp asked WASC members for comments or revisions. Delfino Consunji motioned to approve the minutes. Jeremy Melendez seconded the motion.

The Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes from May 11, 2021 (Approved, see vote tracking sheet.)

3. Committee Member and District Updates

Kevin Kim (District) provided the District update noting: the deadline for the Round 3 Call for Projects is July 31, 2021. Additionally, the District is making minor updates to the project module that will be available for the Round 4 Call for Projects. The reporting module is live and recorded informational sessions along with FAQ are available on the Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program website. Regarding the Watershed Coordinators (WCs), the District noted 9 out of 12 WC agreements have been executed.

Lyndsey Bloxom shared with the WASC the link for a stormwater programs funding webinar held by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Safe, Clean Water Program

Lower San Gabriel River

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



4. Watershed Coordinator Updates

Kekoa Anderson, OhanaVets, noted WASC member interviews will be discussed during Item 7b.

5. Ex Parte Communication Disclosures

Lyndsey Bloxom disclosed Water Replenishment District (WRD) is developing a general support letter for projects applying for SCW funding, recharging the groundwater basin, and requesting support from WRD.

6. Public Comment Period

None.

7. Presentations and Discussion Items

a) Lower San Gabriel River (LSGR) Project Prioritization and Selection Discussion for populating the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Stormwater Investment Plan (SCW Portal & LSGR Scoring Rubric)

Lisa Ann Rapp noted that the WASC voted to approve the Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) on May 11, 2021. However, that there has been an adjustment to the Skylinks Golf Course at Wardlow Stormwater Capture (Skylinks) project that requested construction funding sooner in the approved SIP. Kevin Kim (District) explained disbursement of requests that include funding for construction requires the applicant submit their California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation and the District to make a CEQA determination. Melissa You confirmed that the Skylinks project isn't ready for construction funds yet therefore the funding request will need to be reverted to the original request. Kevin Kim (District) indicated that a motion and vote is needed from the WASC to revert to the original request for the Skylinks project. Lisa Ann Rapp and the District discussed how the change affects the SIP allocation by year.

Kristen Ruffell requested clarification on projects that are requesting construction and design funds in the same request. The District noted that they do not disburse partial fiscal year requests. If any of the fiscal year's requested funding is tied to construction, the District will need to make a CEQA determination before disbursing the total allotment.

Kevin Kim (District) noted that the placeholder date for the Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) meeting is June 29, 2021.

b) Watershed Coordinator Draft Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

Kekoa Anderson presented an overview slide presentation on the draft Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP). He indicated that a written plan will be provided to the Committee on June 14, 2021, and the target date for the Committee to review and provide comments will be June 28, 2021. The posting of the plan with the agenda is anticipated to be on July 8, 2021 before the Committee's meeting on July 13, 2021.

Grace Kast added that they are open to hear from stakeholders at any time, whether through written comments or individual meetings.

Joseph Gonzalez inquired on the status of the website and when it would go live. Kekoa Anderson responded that the website is working internally but has not been made live for the public. He noted that links to the internal site may be shared with the Committee members for review of the content. Joseph

Safe, Clean Water Program

Lower San Gabriel River

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Gonzalez suggested the Watershed Conservation Authority Gateway Cities and Rivers Urban Greening Vision Plan website as a reference.

Adam Galia emphasized the importance that the Committee evaluate the vision specifically for this Watershed so that all residents would be heard regardless of what City they live in. He also asked when the website could go live for the public so that they can be aware of important meetings. Kevin Kim (District) and Kekoa Anderson differentiated the SCW website and the WC website Kekoa Anderson and Grace Kast referenced which will be dedicated to the LSGR WASC and will be released after incorporating the SOEP comments. Grace Kast, the District, and Tori Klug discussed coordinating and linking the SCW and WC websites.

c) Disadvantaged Community, Nature Based Solutions, and Partial Funding Interim Guidelines

Tori Klug (Stantec) presented a slide presentation on Guidance Documents Overview: Disadvantaged Community Benefit, Nature-based Solutions, and Partial Funding.

Adam Galia asked for details on the topic of community members supporting a potential project. Tori Klug elaborated that in terms of assessing whether direct benefits will be felt by a Disadvantaged Community, having a Letter of Support from a City Council, community based organization, or from community members directly is a great way to support a claim of a Disadvantaged Community benefit.

Adam Galia asked if project proponents can make public comments during WASC meetings. Tori Klug responded that yes, they can. Tori Klug added that when the Committee begins to assess a project and if it is not clear if the Disadvantaged Community benefit claim is real, the WASC can ask the project proponents to provide more evidence.

Dan Knapp commented that he did not support what seemed to be an automatic Disadvantaged Community qualification based on municipality. He would prefer a more tangible outreach into the community and see that tangible outreach coming back to the Committee. Tori Klug clarified that it is not automatic that that Disadvantaged Community benefit would be claimed and verified, but it is an example potential pathway that the WASC could deem legitimate as relieving regulatory burden on the entire Municipality. The WASC would then to decide to verify that claim.

Joseph Gonzalez asked if there were any other Disadvantaged Community definitions that they qualify and other definitions they may have that would constitute a community. Tori Klug responded that the guidance does not specify additional definitions, but it does allow for informal definitions of a community boundary to assess a Disadvantaged Community benefit. It would be important for the project proponent or the WASC to have a clear idea of how they are defining “community” and “disadvantaged,” but the guidance is not prescriptive in terms of what you can and cannot use for the informal definitions.

Joseph Gonzalez commented that he has heard from other Watershed groups that it is sometimes challenging to incorporate green Best Management Practices (BMPs) because, for example, the State Waterboard does not accept them as a guaranteed method for bacteria reduction. So to support more Nature-based solutions into some of these projects, there could be more research or discussions with the Waterboard to perhaps approve some of these green BMPs as being effective as grey infrastructure. Lisa Ann Rapp added that there are some studies and modeling efforts underway right now.

8. Public Comment Period

None.

Safe, Clean Water Program

Lower San Gabriel River

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



9. Voting Items

a) Approve the final Fiscal Year 2021-22 Stormwater Investment Plan funding recommendations for the LSGR Watershed Area and approve submission to the Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) for review (if needed)

Kristen Ruffell motioned to reallocate funds for Skylinks project to the original request. Melissa You seconded the motion. The Committee voted to approve the FY 21-22 Stormwater Investment Plan with the Skylinks project amendment. (Approved, see vote tracking sheet).

10. Items for Next Agenda

- Approve Strategic Outreach and Engagement plan
- Discussion on potential LSGR SIP changes made by the ROC

11. Adjournment

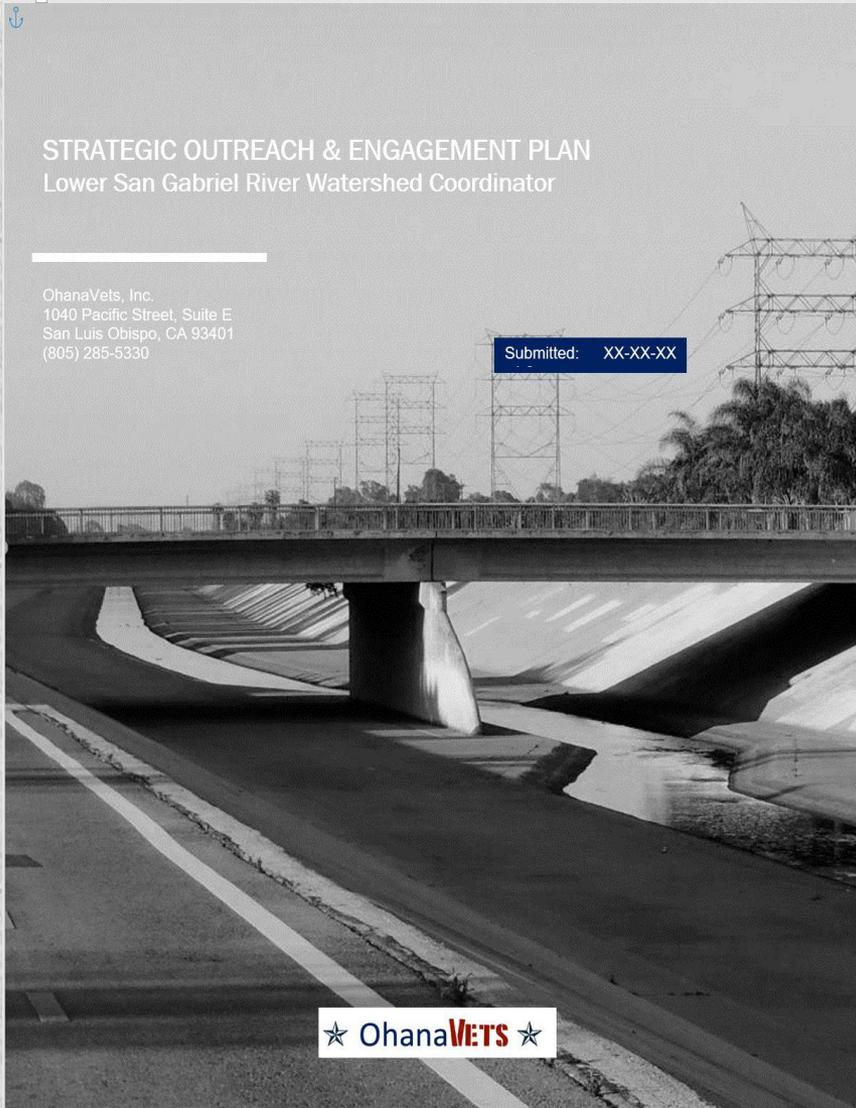
Lisa Ann Rapp and the District thanked WASC members and presenters for their participation and adjourned the meeting.

LSGR WASC - June 8, 2021

		Quorum Present				Voting Item	
Member Type	Position	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	Approve Meeting Minutes	Final Selection v2
Agency	FCD	Julian Juarez	X	Ramy Gindi		Y	Y
Agency	Central Basin	Alex Rojas		Jeremy Melendez	X	Y	Y
Agency	Water Replenishment District	Diane Gatza		Lyndsey Bloxom	X	Y	Y
Agency	Sanitation Districts	Kristen Ruffell	X	Mike Sullivan		Y	Y
Agency	City of Long Beach Parks and Recreation	Stephen Scott		Nancy Villaseñor	X	A	Y
Community Stakeholder	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	Dan Knapp	X	Irene Lopez-Muro		A	Y
Community Stakeholder	Resident	Adam Galia	X	Thalia Campos		Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Rivers Mountains Conservancy	Mark Stanley		Joseph Gonzalez	X	Y	Y
Community Stakeholder	Long Beach Coalition for a Safe Environment	Gabrielle Weeks	X			A	Y
Community Stakeholder							
Municipal Members	Cerritos	Mike O'Grady	X			Y	Y
Municipal Members	Downey	Delfino Consunji	X	Dan Mueller		Y	Y
Municipal Members	Lakewood	Lisa Ann Rapp	X	Konya Vivanti		Y	Y
Municipal Members	Long Beach	Melissa You	X	Wataru Kumagai		Y	Y
Municipal Members	City of Bellflower	Bernie Iniguez	X	Glen Kau		Y	Y
Municipal Members	Santa Fe Springs	Noe Negrete		Marlin Munoz			
Municipal Members	Whittier	Vicki Smith		Kyle Cason			
Total Non-Vacant Seats		16			Yay (Y)	11	14
Total Voting Members Present		14			Nay (N)	0	0
Agency		5			Abstain (A)	3	0
Community Stakeholder		4			Total	14	14
Municipal Members		5				Approved	Approved

Attendance
LSGR WASC - June 8, 2021

Safe Clean Water LA	Kristen Ruffell
Richard Watson	Joseph Gonzalez
Natalie Rivera	Yoshi Andersen
Larry Tortuya - CWE	Delfino Consunji
Traci Gleason	Tori Klug
Konya Vivanti	Lisa Rapp
Bernie Iniguez	Maritsa DRA Inc.
katie m	Mike O'Grady
Dan Knapp	Kala Anderson
Michelle Kim	Bryce Lee
Kekoa Anderson	Adam Galia
Alexander Iglesias LACFCD	Gabrielle Weeks
MELISSA YOU	Grace Kast
Robert Gomez	Nancy Villasenor
Julian J	Melina Watts
Oliver Galang (Craftwater)	Jeremy Melendez (CBMWD)
I EC	Mike Antos
Lyndsey Bloxom	Kevin Kim- LACFCD



Watershed Coordinator Update:

Draft

Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan Overview



LA County – Safe Clean Water Program (Tasks)

Focused Activity This Month

Task	Outcomes
 1. Facilitate Community Engagement in SCWP	...sustained community engagement...
 2. Identify and Develop Project Concepts	...projects that fulfill program goals...
 3. Work with Technical Assistance Teams	...contribute to technical assistance...
 4. Facilitate Identification and Representation of Community Priorities	...addressing community priorities...
 5. Integrate Priorities Through Partnerships and Extensive Networks	...share lessons learned...
 6. Cost-Share Partners	...identify cost-sharing for projects...
 7. Leverage Funding	...identify funding...
 8. Local Stakeholder Education	...conduct education for communities...
 9. Watershed Coordinator Collaboration	...ensure consistency across SCWP...



LA County – Safe Clean Water Program (Task 1)

Strategic Outreach & Engagement Plan

Safe Clean Water LA (Host)

- **Due to District within 12 weeks** of commencement of work
- Includes:
 - Vision for success and methods for evaluating effectiveness
 - Strategies to:
 - Engage stakeholders, municipalities, community groups
 - Solicit input, connect to TA opportunities
 - Ensure diverse perspectives are shared with the District and WASCs
 - Identify and ensure the involvement of members of disadvantaged and underrepresented communities
 - Identify educational programming about watershed management, ecological and community issues
 - Identify and describe collaborative efforts across watershed area boundaries



LSGR SOEP - WASC Member Interviews

Table 4.1 – LSGR WASC Member Interviews with Watershed Coordinators

Member Type	Member	Affiliation	Alternate	Alt-Affiliation	Interview Status
Agency	Julian Juarez	LACFCD	Ramy Gindi	LACFCD	5/10/21 C
Agency	Alex Rojas	CBMWD	Jeremy Melendez	CBMWD	5/11/21 C
Agency	Diane Gatza	WRDSC	Lyndsey Bloxom	WRDSC	5/17/21 C
Agency	Kristen Ruffell	LAC Sanitation	Mike Sullivan	LAC Sanitation	5/6/21 C
Agency	Stephen Scott	Long Beach Parks/Rec/ Marine	Nancy Villaseñor	Long Beach Parks/Rec/ Marine	6/2/21 C
Community Stakeholder	Dan Knapp	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	Irene Lopez-Muro	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	5/16/21 C
Community Stakeholder	Adam Galia	Resident	Thalia Campos	Ctr for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment	5/11/21 C
Community Stakeholder	Mark Stanley	RMC	Joseph Gonzalez	RMC	5/5/21 C
Community Stakeholder	Gabrielle Weeks	Long Beach Coalition for a Safe Environment	Interview Pending		TBD
Municipal Members	Mike O'Grady	Cerritos	Rebecca Scott	Cerritos	5/26/21 C
Municipal Members	Delfino Consunji	Downey	Dan Mueller	Downey	5/17/21 C
Municipal Members	Lisa Ann Rapp	Lakewood	Konya Vivanti	Lakewood	5/18/21 C
Municipal Members	Melissa You	Long Beach	Wataru Kumagai	Long Beach	6/2/21 C
Municipal Members	Bernie Iniguez	City of Bellflower	Glen Kau	City of Norwalk	5/19/21 C
Municipal Members	Noe Negrete	Santa Fe Springs	Marlin Munoz	La Mirada	5/13/21 C
Municipal Members	Vicki Smith	Whittier	Kyle Cason	Whittier	5/13/21 C



Table of Contents

1. Overview	3
2. Background	3
3. Watershed Area Description	4
Physical Characteristics.....	4
Social Characteristics	5
SCWP Context.....	2
4. Interested Party Mapping	3
5. Vision for Success & Evaluation	6
Vision Statement.....	6
Mission Goals	6
Evaluation	6
6. Strategies	6
A. Engage Stakeholders, municipalities, and community groups.....	6
B. Solicit input, connect to technical assistance (TA) opportunities	7
C. Ensure diverse perspectives are shared with District/WASCs.....	9
D. Identify and ensure the involvement of members of disadvantaged and underrepresented communities.....	9
E. Identify educational programming about watershed management, ecological and community issues.....	10
7. Identify Collaborative Efforts	10
Attachment A – Self Inspection Checklist	11
Attachment B – Contact Tracking List	14

1. Overview

This Strategic Outreach & Engagement plan for the Lower San Gabriel River “LSGR” Watershed Area Steering Committee “WASC” will be updated annually in support of the Safe Clean Water Program “SCWP”. It provides guidance for the Watershed Coordinator (WC) to help meet the goals and objectives of the SCWP for this WASC. This plan will present the 1) watershed area description, 2) display interested party mapping, 3) set out the WASC’s vision of success, describe methods for evaluating the success of outreach and engagement efforts, and 4) identify collaborative efforts for sustained outreach and engagement.

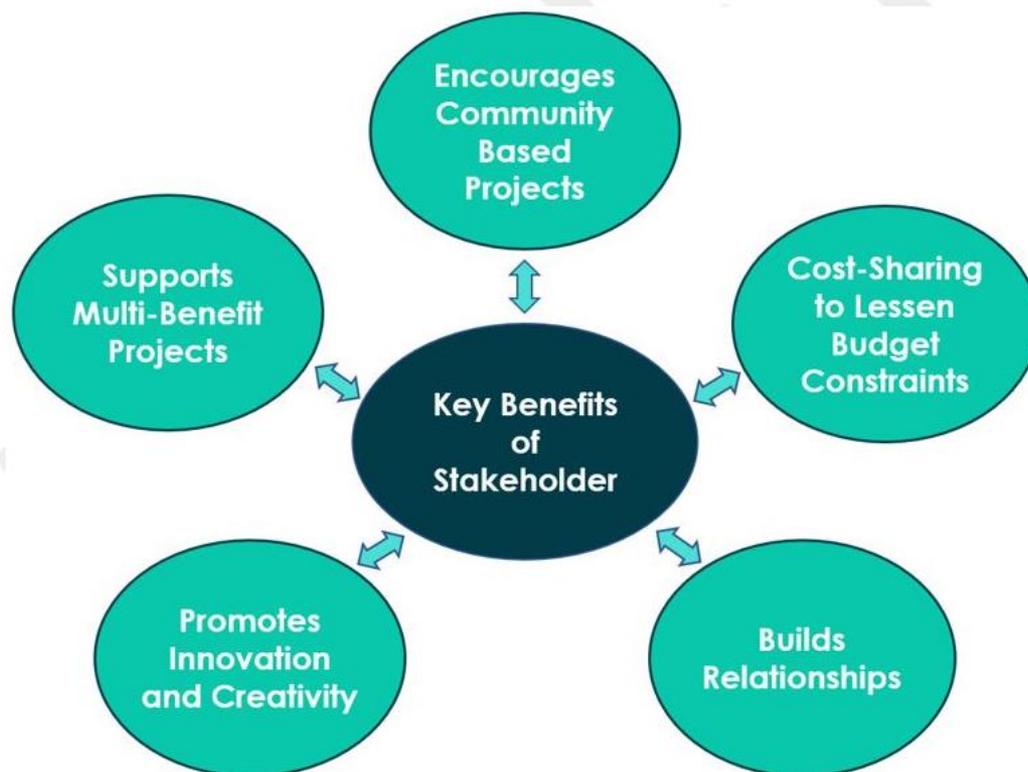
Goals

Developed in collaboration with public health, environmental groups, cities, business, labor, and community-based organizations, the goals of the Safe Clean Water Program are to:

- Implement a new plan for L.A.’s water system to capture the billions of gallons of water we lose each year.
- Help protect our coastal waters and beaches from the trash and contaminants in stormwater that make people sick and threaten marine life.
- Modernize our 100-year-old water system infrastructure, using a combination of nature, science, and new technology.
- Help protect public health, ensuring safer, greener, healthier, and more livable spaces for all.
- Prepare our region for the effects of a changing climate — including recurring cycles of drought, wildfire, and flooding.
- Require strict community oversight and independent auditing to ensure local monies raised would stay local.

4. Interested Party Mapping

An essential part of engagement and outreach is to identify stakeholders and interested parties. Starting with the community-at-large, they are identified as residents, businesses, elected officials, municipal representatives, disadvantaged and under-represented communities, property owners, water providers, etc. Being able to reach these communities in an effective and efficient way requires a deliberate and organized approach.



5. Vision for Success & Evaluation

Vision Statement

By modernizing our 100-year-old water system, we can better protect public health and our environment, and maximize a cleaner, locally controlled water supply.

Utilizing the SOEP, engage the entire Community including cities, municipalities, stakeholders, and organizations to educate and support a safe clean water system that protects public health and the environment.

Mission

The passage of Measure W in 2018 created a comprehensive, regional plan to address how we capture water and how we can reduce our reliance on imported water. As we begin the implementation of Measure W, the Safe Clean Water Program will empower communities to:

- **CAPTURE IT**

Increase our yearly collection of rainwater to supply water for millions of people in L.A. County annually.

- **CLEAN IT**

Reduce the volume of trash before it reaches our beaches and coastal waters.

- **MAKE IT SAFE**

Help eliminate the toxins, fertilizers, bacteria, plastics, metals from our cars, and chemicals that flow into the ocean.

- **MAKE IT FOR EVERYONE**

Protect creeks and streams, build parks, liven up concrete landscapes, and create green space for our communities.

LSGR SOEP – Strategies

A. Engage Stakeholders, municipalities, and community groups,

Vision/Evaluation Criteria	Strategies
<p>Increase visibility of the LSGR WASC to increase attendance and involvement at SCWP and WASC meetings.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential stakeholders identified in the Interested Parties Mapping will be contacted and a growing database of contacts will be developed. • Virtual flyers may be created to invite attendance for in-person and/or virtual meetings (minimum of two in the first year). • Virtual Storybooks may be created and shared with Stakeholders. • A Facebook Group Page and a Twitter Account will be created. Interested Parties will be asked to “Like” the page and “Share” it to broaden the viewership. • A dedicated LSGR WASC website will be created that includes up-to-date information regarding community events, SCWP Meetings, involvement opportunities, calendar of events, links to the SCWP website and project portal. • Community and school events will be scheduled or utilized to distribute flyers, meet individuals, provide educational opportunities, and establish relationships. **See Potential Community Events List ** • Surveys (on-line and printed) will be used to gauge interest in local community needs (multi-lingual as necessary to specific community) with information on how to get involved with SCWP and LSGR.

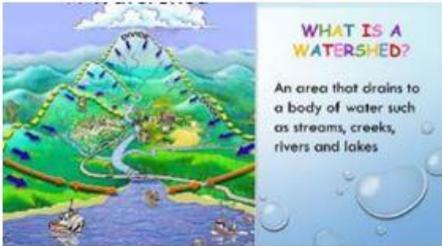
B. Solicit input, connect to technical assistance (TA) opportunities

Vision/Evaluation Criteria	Strategies
<p>Identify preliminary project concepts that are candidates for Technical Assistance and meet the goals of the SCWP.</p> <div data-bbox="376 539 927 1239">  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ① Steering Committee Meeting ② Conduct Survey/Develop Community & NGO Contact List ③ Engage with municipal agencies, community groups, and NGOs to learn about their projects ④ Technical Assistance to Best Align Projects with SCWP Goals ⑤ Map Out Project Locations </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend organization workshops and meetings and give presentations/information about SCWP and how to get involved; solicit ideas for project concepts. • Create and host a technical advisory committee made up of NGOs and other technical experts to convene quarterly to offer conceptual ideas in communities. • Speak with municipal staff members to help identify blighted or vacant parcels. • Attend community events with flyers, booth, water experience/education trailer, etc.

C. Ensure diverse perspectives are shared with District/WASCs.

Vision/Evaluation Criteria	Strategies
<p>Increase visibility and involvement of local communities that represent diverse socio-economic and race perspectives and include those in project concepts, project design and reports to the LSGR WASC, other WASC WCs and the District.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify area-specific language needs and provide translated materials accordingly. • Attend wide variety of events including small and informal events that offer opportunities for one-on-one conversations. • Interview individuals that are well-connected in communities to solicit names of local leaders that can help facilitate the need for more inclusion and involvement. • Host area-specific, inter-active in-person and virtual workshops • Attend events with inter-active stormwater pollution/treatment trailer “NAME of Trailer” • Website and Social Media... • Door to door canvassing with leave behind literature that invites interest and participation.

D. Identify and ensure the involvement of members of disadvantaged and underrepresented communities.

Vision/Evaluation Criteria	Strategies
<p>Address the goals of the SCWP by soliciting ideas and needs, offering technical assistance to Disadvantaged Communities and underrepresented areas and facilitating their involvement in the SCWP.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solicit input from community leaders, municipal leaders to identify areas and communities that should be engaged in the SCWP. • Use statistical data to identify known areas. • Identify physical or other barriers that prevent more involvement. • Attend community events and speak with the general public about local areas. • Inter-active planning and conceptual designing workshops. • Coordinate efforts and data with the Greater LA IRWM Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program (DACIP). 

E. Identify educational programming about watershed management, ecological and community issues.

Vision/Evaluation Criteria	Strategies
<p>Inform the SCWP, the LSGR WASC and interested parties about local and regional perspectives and <u>needs, and</u> develop an effective educational program that will align with those perspectives.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent reporting of collected information and submittal to the District, other WCs, and to the WASC. • Facilitate inter-active, educational opportunities at schools, workshops, events, etc. • Attend/participate in LSGR WASC Meetings • Attend Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) meetings • Coordinate with other WCs 

7. Identify Collaborative Efforts

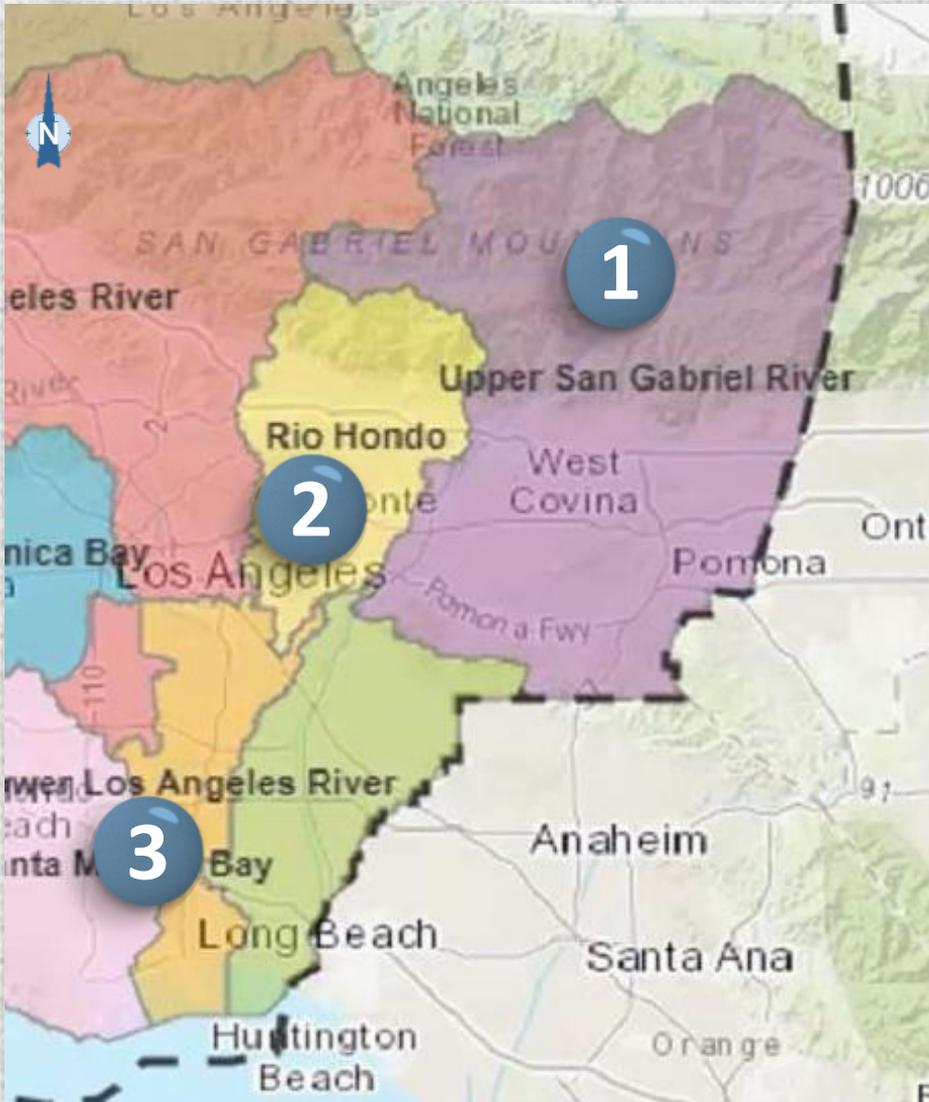
The work of the LSGR WASC will be shared by the WC with other WCs in the SCWP. This will go above and beyond the requirements of the SCWP. On-going dialogue and coordination is a must to reduce the potential of over-burdening stakeholders with similar or different information. Currently, the DACIP is conducting outreach and will help to identify water supply and/or water quality projects that are in Disadvantaged Communities. The SCWP will coordinate their outreach in the LSGR IRWM sub-region. In addition, the LSGR WASC WC will meet regularly with neighboring WCs to ensure maximum benefit and consistency.



Example of Collaborative Efforts to date:

- ✓ Active Watersheds - Northern Santa Monica Bay
- ✓ Gateway Area Pathfinding (GAP) Analysis

LSGR – Neighboring Watershed Area



Neighboring Watershed Area Coordination:

1. Upper San Gabriel River
2. Rio Hondo
3. Lower Los Angeles River

LSGR SOEP – ANNUAL SELF INSPECTION CHECKLIST

1. Engage Stakeholders, municipalities, community groups.	Yes	No	N/A	Remarks
1. Have WASC board members in the watershed been identified, added to contact tracking list, and contacted for feedback at least bi-annually?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Has a list of additional (non-WASC) watershed stakeholders been identified, added to the contact tracking list, and contacted for feedback at least bi-annually?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Are there tribal governments or indigenous leaders that need to be engaged directly by the Flood Control District or County?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Have the school districts within the watershed been contacted for possible inclusion on the contact tracking list?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Have efforts to reach marginalized or <u>overlooked</u> community groups been attempted. List efforts in <u>Remarks</u> .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Solicit input, connect to technical assistance (TA) opportunities.	Yes	No	N/A	Remarks
1. Have technical assistance (TA) providers been identified and contacted?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Have current projects been reviewed by (TA) providers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Has a communication channel between TA providers and WASC members been established?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Has a feedback system been implemented to allow the watershed community to provide feedback to the WASC? Explain in Remarks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Has the Watershed Coordinator conducted public meetings to educate and gain support of the SCWP goals? Explain in Remarks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Strategic Outreach & Engagement Plan “SOEP” Schedule

✓ May 11 WASC Meeting - Preliminary Update Report

▪ June 8 WASC Meeting - Draft SOEP Overview

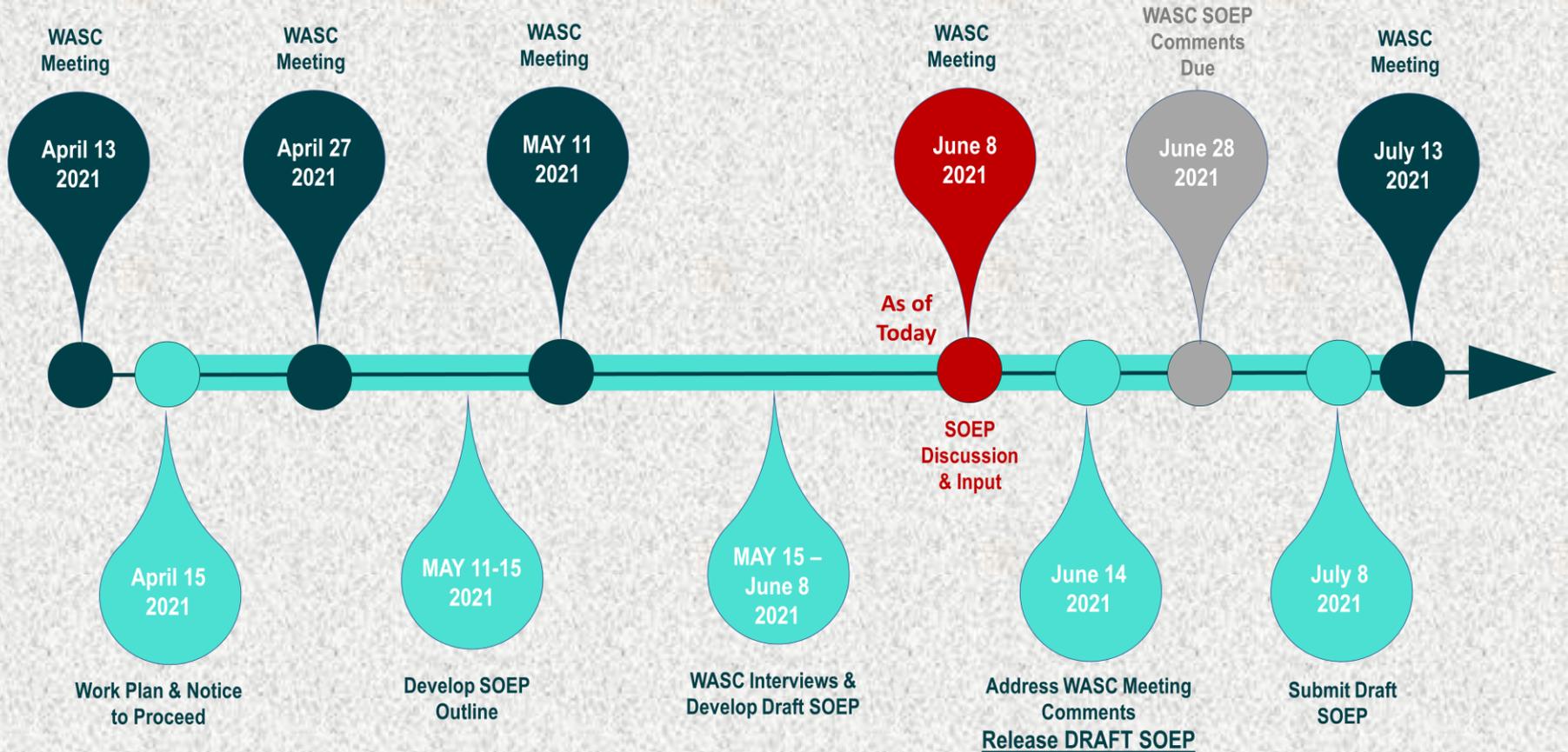


Discuss Steps to take prior to July 13 WASC Meeting

▪ July 13 WASC Meeting - Approval of SOEP

OhanaVETS will be soliciting comments and feedback from all stakeholders throughout the draft and approval process. The SOEP is a living document that will be revised/approved by the WASC annually.

LSGR – SOEP Timeline



Strategic Outreach & Engagement Plan

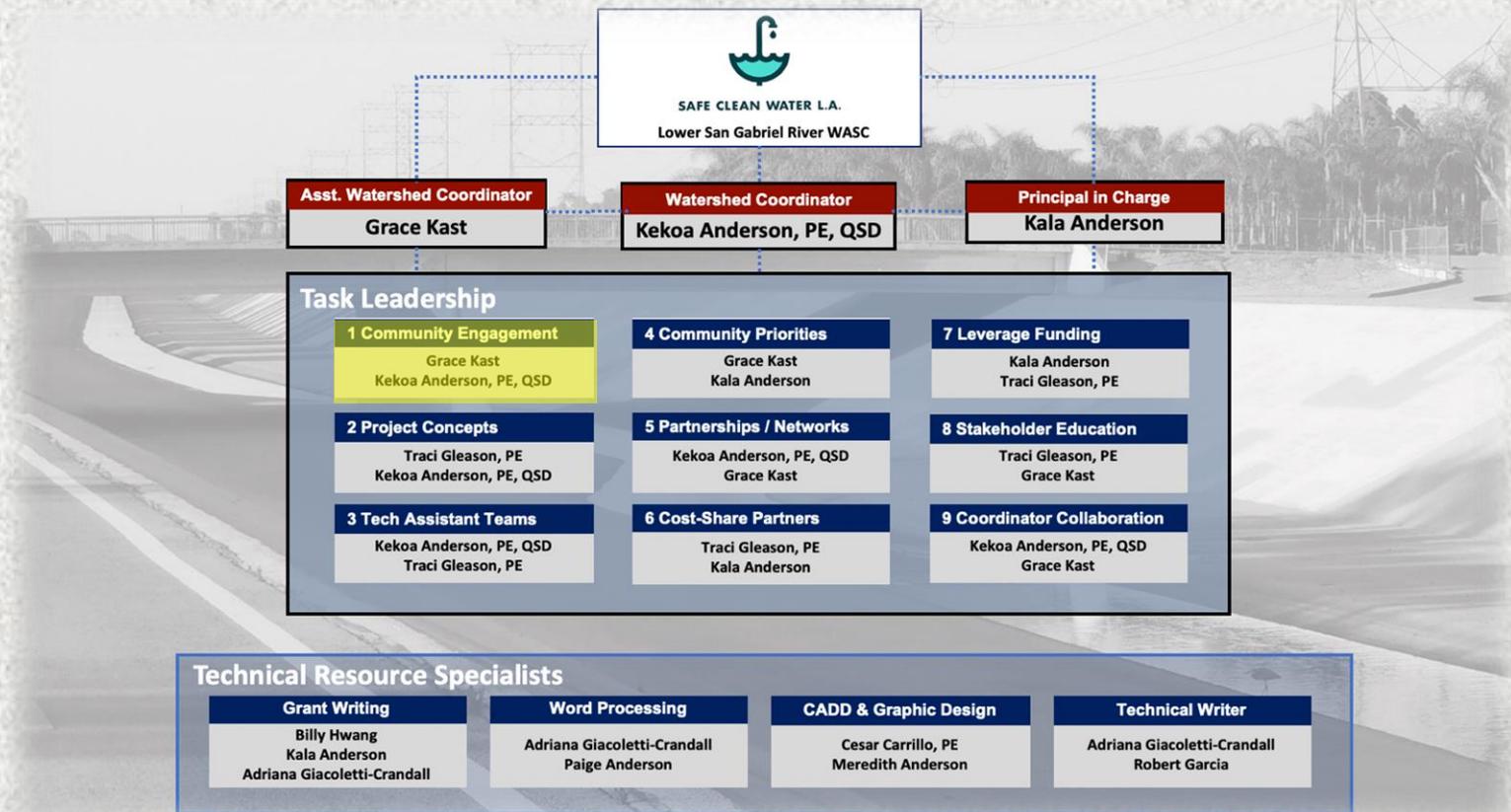
Summary Information:

- ✓ **Guidance Document – Gets us Started**
- ✓ **Living Document – Ongoing Additions & Lessons Learned**
- ✓ **Collaborate with Other Watersheds – Share good Ideas/Information/Format**
- ✓ **Input from Stakeholders & Communities**
- ✓ **Annual Checklist & WASC Review**
- ✓ **Update SOEP Annually over 5-year program**





Lower San Gabriel River - Watershed Coordinator Team



Guidance Documents Overview

Disadvantaged Community Benefit
Nature-Based Solutions
Partial Funding



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



Disadvantaged Community Benefit Interim Guidance



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.

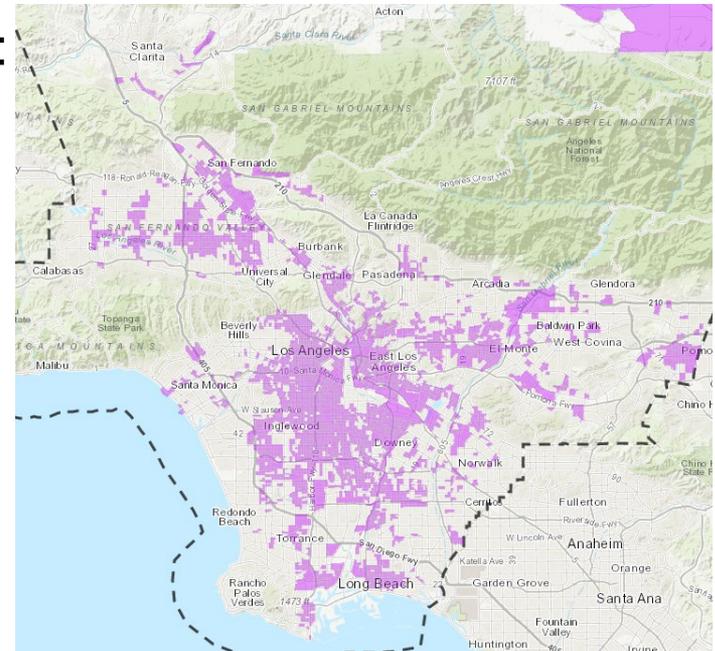


SCWP Disadvantaged Community Benefit Goal

Investing in disadvantaged communities by:

- Locating beneficial Projects within, or
- Such that the benefits of a Project are directly provided to,

Census Block Groups where the median household income is less than 80% of the statewide median household income (MHI)



SCWP Digital Spatial Data Library

<https://arcg.is/rbKfm>



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



Interpreting “Disadvantaged Community Benefit”

1. Projects where **any of the construction effort is within a census block group designated as a disadvantaged community** will be considered “within” a disadvantaged community, and therefore providing a Disadvantaged Community Benefit
2. Projects where **none of the construction effort is within a census block group designated as a disadvantaged community** can be considered to provide a Disadvantaged Community Benefit **if it provides a “direct benefit” to a census block group designated as a disadvantaged community**



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



Consideration of Direct Benefit

Whether a Project provides a “direct benefit” as used in SCWP policy will be **a decision made by WASCs on a project-by-project basis**, considering:

- the goals of the SCWP,
- the benefits provided to the community by each Project, and
- the area within which those benefits will be felt.



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



Consideration of Direct Benefit

Considering different geographic boundaries

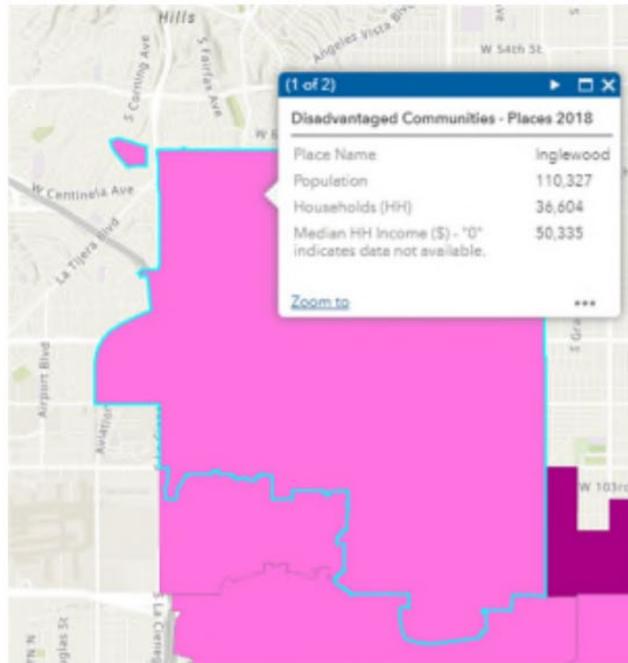


Figure 1 - Inglewood Census Place (DWR Disadvantaged Community Mapping Tool): Pink is disadvantaged, and purple is severely disadvantaged.

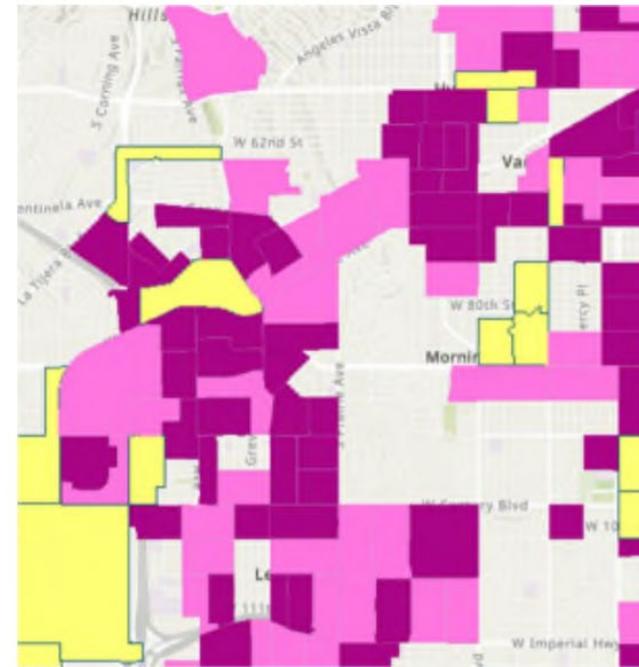


Figure 2 - Inglewood Census Block Groups (DWR Disadvantaged Community Mapping Tool): Pink is disadvantaged, purple is severely disadvantaged, and yellow is missing data.

Census Places

US Census places within SCWP boundaries that have an MHI below 80% of the statewide MHI (2018 data), and therefore could be considered disadvantaged at the scale of the municipality:

- Bell
- Bellflower
- Bell Gardens
- Commerce
- Compton
- Cudahy
- El Monte
- Gardena
- Hawaiian Gardens
- Hawthorne
- Huntington Park
- Inglewood
- Lynwood
- Maywood
- Montebello
- Paramount
- Pomona
- Rosemead
- San Fernando
- South El Monte
- South Gate
- Walnut Park



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



Consideration of Direct Benefit

Considering different geographic boundaries

Steps to evaluate:

1. Is there a formal or informal community boundary more appropriate than Census Block Group boundaries to consider for the benefit area of a particular Project? If yes...
2. Using that boundary as a community, does the median household income statistic or the current CalEnviroScreen tool consider that community “disadvantaged?” If yes...
3. Does the WASC wish to recommend that the Project will provide benefits across the entire community boundary?

CalEnviroScreen:

<https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/maps-data>



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



Community Support

- One of the most effective ways to document if a Project will provide benefit to a community is if the community itself says so and expresses support
- Similarly, decisions by the WASC can rely upon the lack of documented public support, or the presence of documented resistance from members of a community



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



Interim Nature-Based Solutions Programming Guidelines



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



Nature-Based Solutions Guidance

- Guidance document clarifies how best to prioritize Nature-Based Solutions
- Specifically aims to help the WASCs prioritize Nature-Based Solutions when evaluating Projects and programming SIPs
- Highlights how different individuals and entities can support the SCWP requirement that Regional Infrastructure Program funds “Shall be programmed, to the extent feasible, such that Nature-Based Solutions are prioritized” (Section 16.05.D.1.g)



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



Nature-Based Solutions in the SCWP

- Section 16.03.V: Nature-Based Solutions means a Project that utilizes natural processes that slow, detain, infiltrate or filter Stormwater or Urban Runoff. These methods may include:
 - relying predominantly on soils and vegetation;
 - increasing the permeability of Impermeable Areas;
 - protecting undeveloped mountains and floodplains;
 - creating and restoring riparian habitat and wetlands;
 - creating rain gardens, bioswales, and parkway basins; and
 - enhancing soil through composting, mulching, and planting trees and vegetation, with
 - preference for native species.



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



Nature-Based Solutions Examples



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



Nature-Based Solutions Examples



Nature-Based Solutions Examples



Links between Needs, SCWP Goals, and NBS

Identified Need or Desired Outcome	Potential Natural Processes & Nature-Mimicking Strategies	SCWP Benefits
Improved environmental water quality	Bioretention; biofiltration; removed impermeable area; increase of permeability; soil enhancement; green streets	Water Quality Benefit
Increased local water supply	Surface and subsurface infiltration to groundwater; treat and release clean stormwater flows for a justified beneficial use; stormwater capture to offset irrigation with potable water; soil enhancement to offset irrigation with potable water; new native and climate-appropriate planting to offset irrigation with potable water; remove impermeable area; increase permeability	Water Supply Benefit
Improved flood management	Bioretention; native and climate appropriate planting; removal of impermeable area; increase of permeability; microtopography changes; protection or restoration of riparian or wetland systems	Community Investment Benefit (CIB): Flood Management
Improved flood conveyance	Stream daylighting; bioretention; microtopography changes; removed impermeable surfaces; increase of permeability; localized infiltration to groundwater	CIB: Flood Conveyance



Complete table on pages 6-7



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



WASC Assessment of Projects

Questions to Ask Regarding Individual Projects

Are there natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies that this Project will use to address watershed needs and deliver SCWP benefits?

If not, should this project be revisited for future SIP consideration instead?



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



WASC Assessment of SIPs

Questions to Ask Regarding SIPs

Has the WASC prioritized Nature-Based Solutions within this and prior Stormwater Investment Plans?

How are the Nature-Based Solutions funded to-date collectively providing the anticipated benefits to the Watershed Area, and where are the biggest needs or opportunities?

WASC Tools and Strategies

To evaluate Disadvantaged Community Benefits or Nature-Based Solutions in their Watershed Area, WASCs can:

- Ask their Watershed Coordinator(s) to evaluate and report how people, city and county agencies, and other stakeholders would describe the preferred Disadvantaged Community Benefits and prioritize Nature-Based Solutions
- Invite presentations to better understand potential Disadvantaged Community Benefits sought and how Nature-Based Solutions would bring benefits in the Watershed Area



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



Partial Funding Guidelines



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



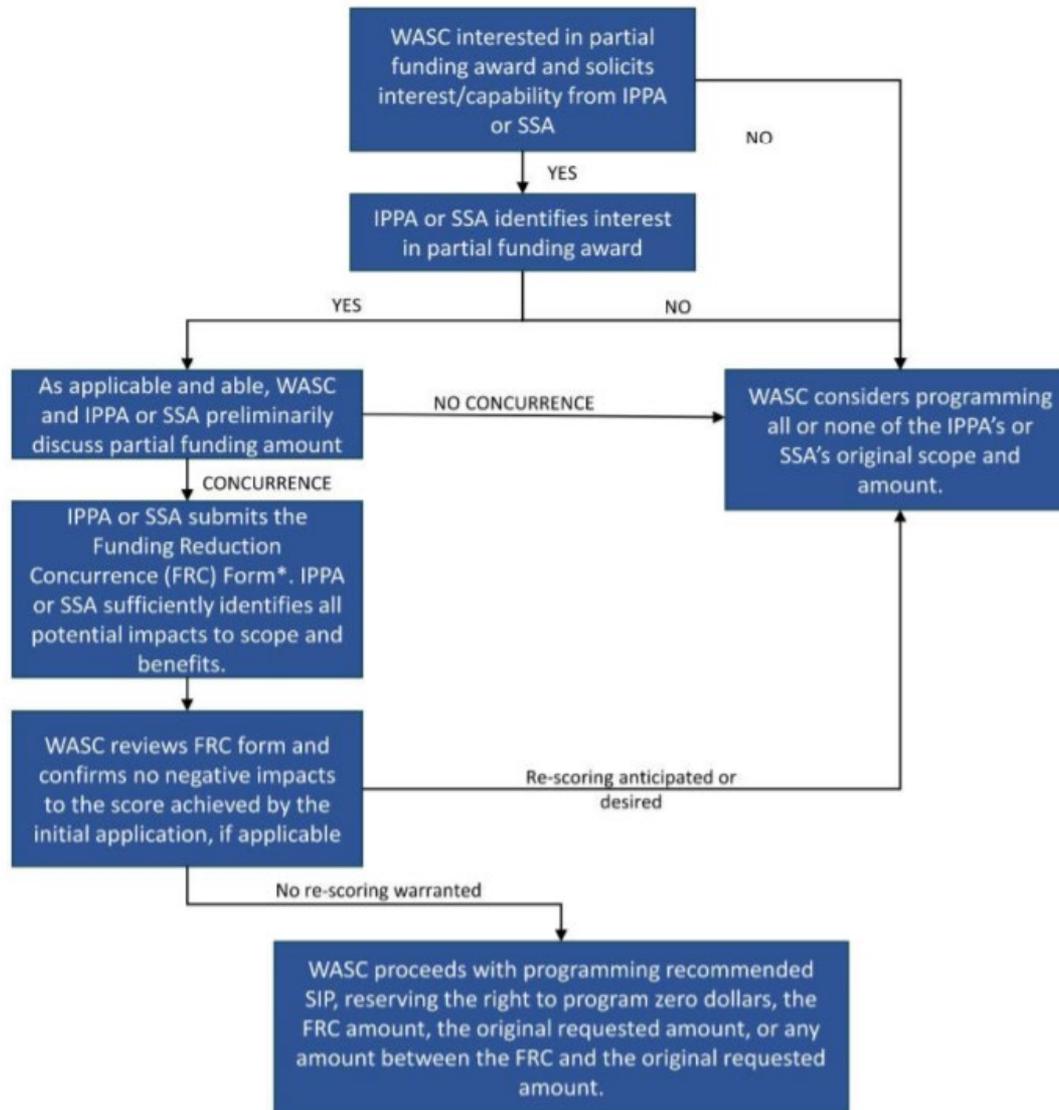
Partial Funding

- Goal to give WASCs additional flexibility when developing their SIPs, and to help realize the benefits of proposed Projects
- The partial funding award should not result in ANY reduction to the scope or benefits of (or the score assigned to) the project or study as identified in the application (and as submitted in the Feasibility Study, if applicable)



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.

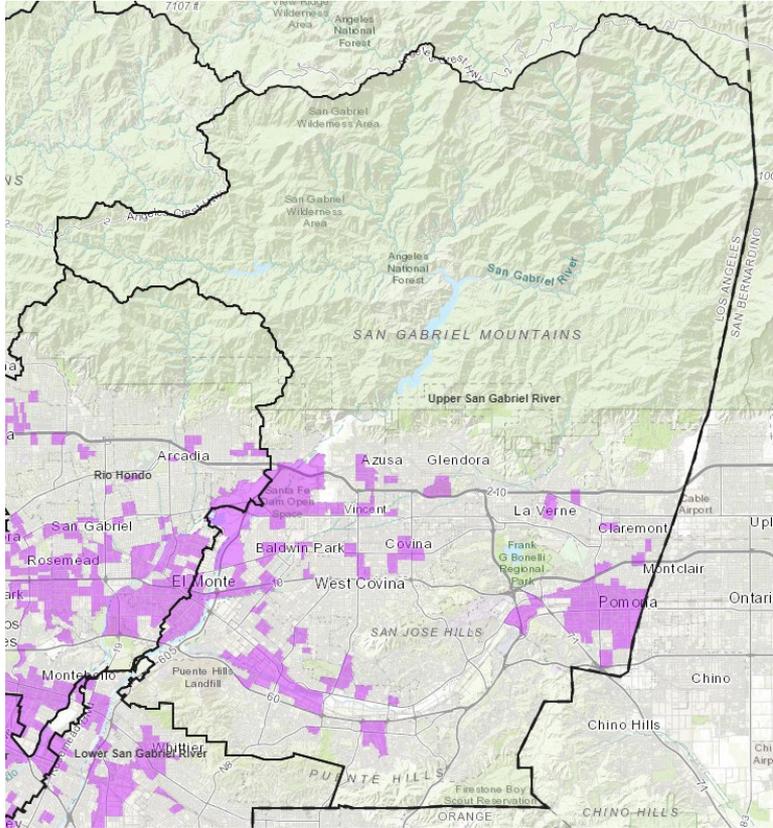




SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.



Questions and Discussion



Full guidance documents available:

<https://safecleanwaterla.org/regional-program-2/>

SCWP Digital Spatial Data Library

<https://arcg.is/rbKfm>



SAFE CLEAN WATER L.A.

