

# Safe, Clean Water Program

## Lower Los Angeles River

### Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)

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#### **Meeting Minutes:**

Tuesday, August 24, 2021  
1:00pm - 3:00pm  
WebEx Meeting

#### **Attendees**

##### Committee Members Present:

Dan Sharp (District)	Erica Maceda* (River in Action)
Alex Rojas (Central Basin)	Gina Nila (Commerce)
Lyndsey Bloxom* (Water Replenishment District)	Dan Mueller (Downey)
Kristen Ruffell (LA County Sanitation Districts)	Melissa You (Long Beach)
Dylan Porter* (Port of Long Beach)	Laura Ochoa (Lynwood)
Kedrin Hopkins (Conservation Corps of Long Beach)	Adriana Figueroa (Paramount)
Joseph Gonzalez* (Rivers & Mountains Conservancy)	Kelli Tunnicliff (Signal Hill)
Cindy Montanez (TreePeople)	Gladis Deras (South Gate)

##### Committee Members Not Present:

Stephen Scott (Long Beach Parks & Recreation)

\*Committee Member Alternate

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

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Melissa You, Vice Chair of the Lower Los Angeles River WASC, welcomed members and called the meeting to order.

Justin Jones (District) conducted the roll call and with a majority present, quorum was established. The District provided an overview of the WebEx functions and housekeeping items.

### **2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 27, 2021**

The District displayed a copy of the meeting minutes from the July 27, 2021 meeting. Melissa You asked for a motion to approve the July 27, 2021 meeting minutes.

Kelli Tunnicliff motioned to approve the meeting minutes, with Kristen Ruffell seconding the motion. The Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes from July 27, 2021. (Approved, see Vote Tracker sheet)

### **3. Committee Member and District Updates**

Justin Jones (District) provided the District updates, noting:

- Regional Oversight Committee voted on June 29th to recommend all nine Watershed Area Steering Committee's (WASCs) FY 21-22 Stormwater Investment Plans to advance for Board of Supervisor approval, which is tentatively scheduled for September 15<sup>th</sup>. Once that approval takes place, the

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District will work on the transfer agreements. If you are requesting funds for construction, you will need to submit CEQA documentation, and the District will need to review and approve.

- The Call for Projects (Round 3) closed on July 31st. The District received: 40 IP, 13 SS, and 7 TRPs.
- Regional Program Fund Recipients are required to submit quarterly and annual reports through on the online Reporting Module. Reminder, Quarterly reports were due August 15<sup>th</sup> and annual plans were due on April 1<sup>st</sup> from Municipalities. The District anticipates fund disbursement this month.

Mike Antos (Stantec) announced that he will be attending all meetings moving forward as Jon Abelson has transitioned to other responsibilities.

Dan Sharp announced that today was his last meeting. He will be retiring effective September 9, 2021. His alternate Rami Gindi will be attending meetings moving forward until a permanent representative is selected.

Lyndsey Bloxom announced that today is her last meeting. She will be moving out of state to start a water research foundation. She indicated that her replacement is Esther Rojas.

Kelli Tunnicliff announced that will transition to the City of Lakewood, leaving her current position with the City of Signal Hill. She indicated that her alternate Cecil will be attending meetings moving forward.

#### **4. Watershed Coordinator Updates**

Watershed Coordinator, Tara Dales (SGA Marketing), noted:

- Updating and submitting the SOEP
- Submitted 1<sup>st</sup> quarterly report and cost shared report to be used for potential projects
- Conducted outreach Cities, Watersheds and Parks and Recreation to obtain feedback for event ideas
- Meeting with TreePeople Inc. regarding project concepts
- Meeting Joseph Gonzalez about potential project concepts that he identified.
- Meeting with East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice. They mentioned they have project concepts that are applicable to TRP.
- Developing a presentation about the TRP process which she will be using in her future meetings.
- Contacted the District to give them a presentation on the TRP programs so the coordinators are fully versed in the process and logistics of the program. They then plan to share this knowledge with the community.

#### **5. Ex Parte Communication Disclosures**

None.

#### **6. Public Comment Period**

None.

#### **7. Discussion Items**

- a) Review of WASCs roles and responsibilities

Mike Antos (Stantec) discussed the WASCs roles and responsibilities via a slide presentation.

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Kelli Tunncliff asked if there are any criteria in filling the primary role for the city of Signal Hill or anything that they need to do specifically regarding that. Mike Antos responded that there is a process to get someone either in the chair or in the alternate position and you just need to engage directly with the District staff to resolve that. Kelli Tunncliff asked who they can engage with for this process. Justin Jones (District) indicated that an email can be sent to him to start the process. Mike Antos noted that contacting Justin Jones applies to anyone else who is moving on and needs their seat filled.

#### b) Presentation of Watershed Coordinator Final Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

Tara Dales discussed the Final Strategic Outreach & Engagement Plan via a slide presentation.

Joseph Gonzalez asked if the coordinator has any capacity to provide sponsorship at any events. Tara Dales responded that they would not be able to sponsor events.

Adriana Figueroa commented on doing a short overview of the program with respective City councils prior the events. She further commented that it is good for Cities if the council is involved.

Joseph Gonzalez provided a correction: the SELA Arts Festival occurs in the City of South Gate, not Long Beach.

## 8. Public Comment Period

None.

## 9. Voting Items

#### a) Approve the Final Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

Kristen Ruffell moved to approve the Final Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan. Joseph Gonzalez seconded the motion. Motion was approved. (Approved, see Vote Tracker sheet)

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

Justin Jones indicated there was one Infrastructure Program project missing a District conceptual approval; the District reached out to the applicant and are awaiting a response. Dan Sharp asked regarding the one project that is pending potential approval by the District and if the Committee could approve this being sent to the Scoring Committee contingent upon District approval. In other words, if approved, is the District able to sign off on the letter. Justin Jones indicated that you do not necessarily need the conceptual approval to move it to the Scoring Committee. The District would just recommend that this WASC would consider approving all applicants to be able to present their project at the Scoring Committee. Then, if it scores at or above the threshold, they will present before the WASC. Afterwards, a discussion could be had about whether it is completed. Dan Sharp asked if in doing this, they would not be delaying that project which does not have the approval letter. Justin Jones indicated that it would not be a delay.

Kristen Ruffell motioned to send all completed feasibility studies to Scoring Committee for consideration. Dan Sharp seconded the motion. Motion was approved. (Approved, see Vote Tracker sheet)

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#### **10. Items for Next Agenda**

Justin Jones commented that depending on when the Scoring Committee can score these projects and submit it back to the District, they can potentially look at presentations for the Infrastructure Program projects and Scientific Studies within the next couple of meetings.

Gina Nila commented that it appeared that there may or may not be a need for a meeting at the end of September. The District would notify the members next month.

#### **11. Adjournment**

Gina Nila thanked the Committee members for their time and participation and adjourned the meeting.

**LLAR WASC - August 24, 2021**

			Quorum Present			Voting Items (see meeting minutes for additional details)	
Member Type	Position	Member	Voting/ Present?	Alternate	Voting/ Present?	Approve 7-27-2021 Meeting Minutes	Send all completed Feasibility Studies to Scoring Committee
Agency	District	Dan Sharp	x	Ramy Gindi		y	y
Agency	Central Basin	Alex Rojas	x	Jeremy Melendez		y	y
Agency	Water Replenishment District	Diane Gatza		Lyndsey Bloxom	x	y	y
Agency	LA County Sanitation Districts	Kristen Ruffell	x	Mike Sullivan		y	y
Agency	Port of Long Beach	James Vernon		Dylan Porter	x	y	y
Community Stakeholder	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	Kedrin Hopkins	x			y	y
Community Stakeholder	Rivers & Mountains Conservancy	Mark Stanley		Joe Gonzalez	x	y	y
Community Stakeholder	TreePeople	Cindy Montanez	x	Manny Gonez		y	y
Community Stakeholder	City of Long Beach Parks & Recreation	Stephen Scott					
Community Stakeholder	River in Action	Melissa Bahmanpour		Erica Maceda	x	y	y
Municipal Members	City of Commerce City of Bell Gardens	Gina Nila	x			y	y
Municipal Members	City of Downey	Dan Mueller	x	Delfino Consunji		y	y
Municipal Members	City of Long Beach	Melissa You	x	Cecilia Salazar		y	y
Municipal Members	City of Lynwood	Laura Ochoa	x	Noe Martinez		y	y
Municipal Members	City of Paramount	Adriana Figueroa	x	Sarah Ho		y	y
Municipal Members	City of Signal Hill	Kelli Tunnicliff	x	Cecil Looney		y	y
Municipal Members	City of South Gate	Gladis Deras	x	Clint Herrera		y	y
Watershed Coordinator Non-Voting Member	SGA Marketing	Tara Dales	x				
Total Non-Vacant Seats		17			Yes (Y)	16	16
Total Voting Members Present		16			No (N)	0	0
Agency		5			Abstain (A)	0	0
Community Stakeholder		4			Total	16	16
Municipal Members		7				Approved	Approved

**Attendees**  
**Lower Los Angeles River WASC Meeting**  
**August 24, 2021**

Safe Clean Water LA  
Yvana H  
Yvana Hrovat  
Ramy Gindi  
Uriel Cobian  
Belen Bernal  
I EC  
Clarasophia Gust  
Gina Nila  
laura ochoa  
Kirk Allen - LACFCD  
Mayra Cabrera  
Lauro Alvarado  
Michelle Kim  
Manny Gonez  
Kelli tunnicliff  
Melissa You  
Joseph Gonzalez  
Cameron Castillo

Alex Rojas  
Dylan Porter  
Lyndsey Bloxom  
Fiona McHenry-Crutchfield  
Cindy Montanez  
Irene Garcia  
Dan Sharp  
erica Maceda  
Jonathan Lee (Tetra Tech)  
Bryce Lee  
Francisco DRA  
Dan Mueller  
Marcela Benavides  
Kedrin Hopkins  
Amanda Begley  
Mike Antos  
Blake Whittington  
Grace Kast  
Jeremy Melendez

Erin Pang  
Gladis Deras  
Nancy Gardiner  
Cecilia Salazar  
Adriana Figu  
Hilario Aguilar  
Fred Gonzalez  
Kristen Ruffell  
Pablo Forni  
T.Dales  
Justin Jones - LACFCD  
Tara Dales Watershed Coordinator

# LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER

WATERSHED COORDINATOR MONTHLY UPDATES

8/24/2021



**SAFE  
CLEAN  
WATER**

**sga**  
MARKETING

# TODAY'S AGENDA

- 1** STRATEGIC OUTREACH AND  
ENGAGEMENT PLAN VOTE
- 2** OUTREACH EVENTS UPDATES
- 3** COST-SHARE DATABASE UPDATES

# SOEP UPDATES

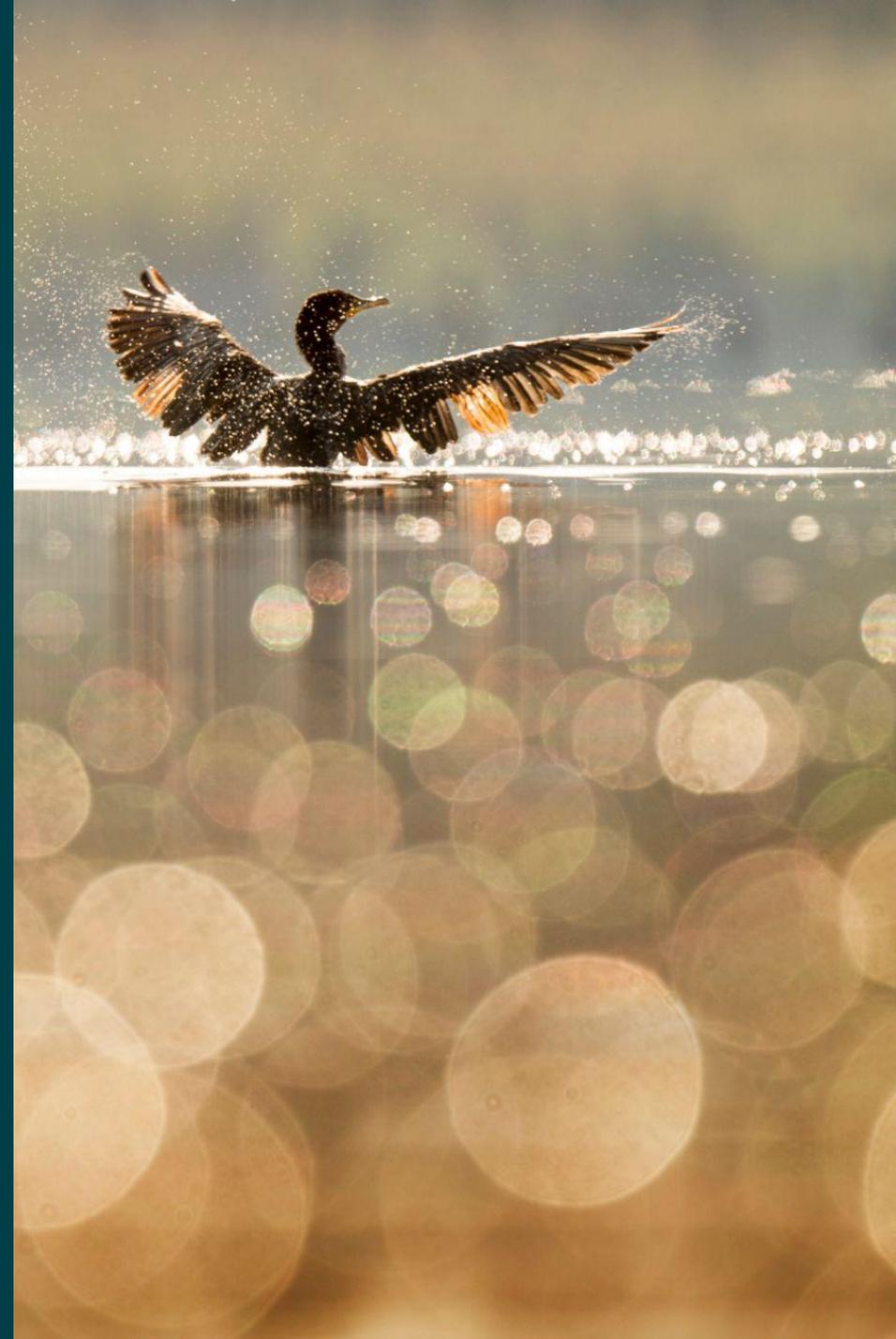


# SOEP UPDATES

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We received and incorporated comments from two WASC members. Changes include:

- Addition of reference to alternative definitions for Disadvantaged Communities
- Recategorization of some Interested Parties
- Correction to parks info shown in Table A-2





# SOEP UPDATES

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## **Addition of Interested Parties:**

- LA Conservation Corps
- Gateway Cities Council of Governments
- CA Department of Fish and Wildlife
- CA Wildlife Conservation Board
- CA Department of Parks and Recreation
- CA Natural Resources Agency
- CA State Coastal Conservancy
- Commerce Water System Utility

**Addition of 8 past outreach events in the cities of South Gate, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Huntington Park, and Long Beach**

# OUTREACH EVENTS



# EVENTS

## COMMUNITY EVENTS - WHO DID WE CONTACT?

LOCATION	DEPARTMENT
City of Paramount	Planning and Customer Service
City of Long Beach	SELA Arts Festival
City of Long Beach	Downtown Long Beach Alliance
City of Long Beach	Long Beach Arts Council
City of Lynwood	Recreation Department
City of Cudahy	Recreation Department
City of Bells Garden	City webpage
City of Bell	City webpage
City of Commerce	City webpage
City of Pico Rivera	Parks & Recreation

LOCATION	DEPARTMENT
City of Huntington Park	Parks & Recreation
City of Downey	Parks & Recreation Dia de los Muertos Festival
City of Downey	Downey Theatre
City of Vernon	City webpage
City of South Gate	Transit Services
City of Carson	City webpage
City of Compton	Parks & Recreation
City of Signal Hill	Community Services
Harbor Area Farmers Market	Farmer's market located in South Gate, Huntington Park, Long Beach

# EVENTS

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## CAPACITY FOR 6 EVENTS

**AIM: 4 EVENTS IN  
2021**

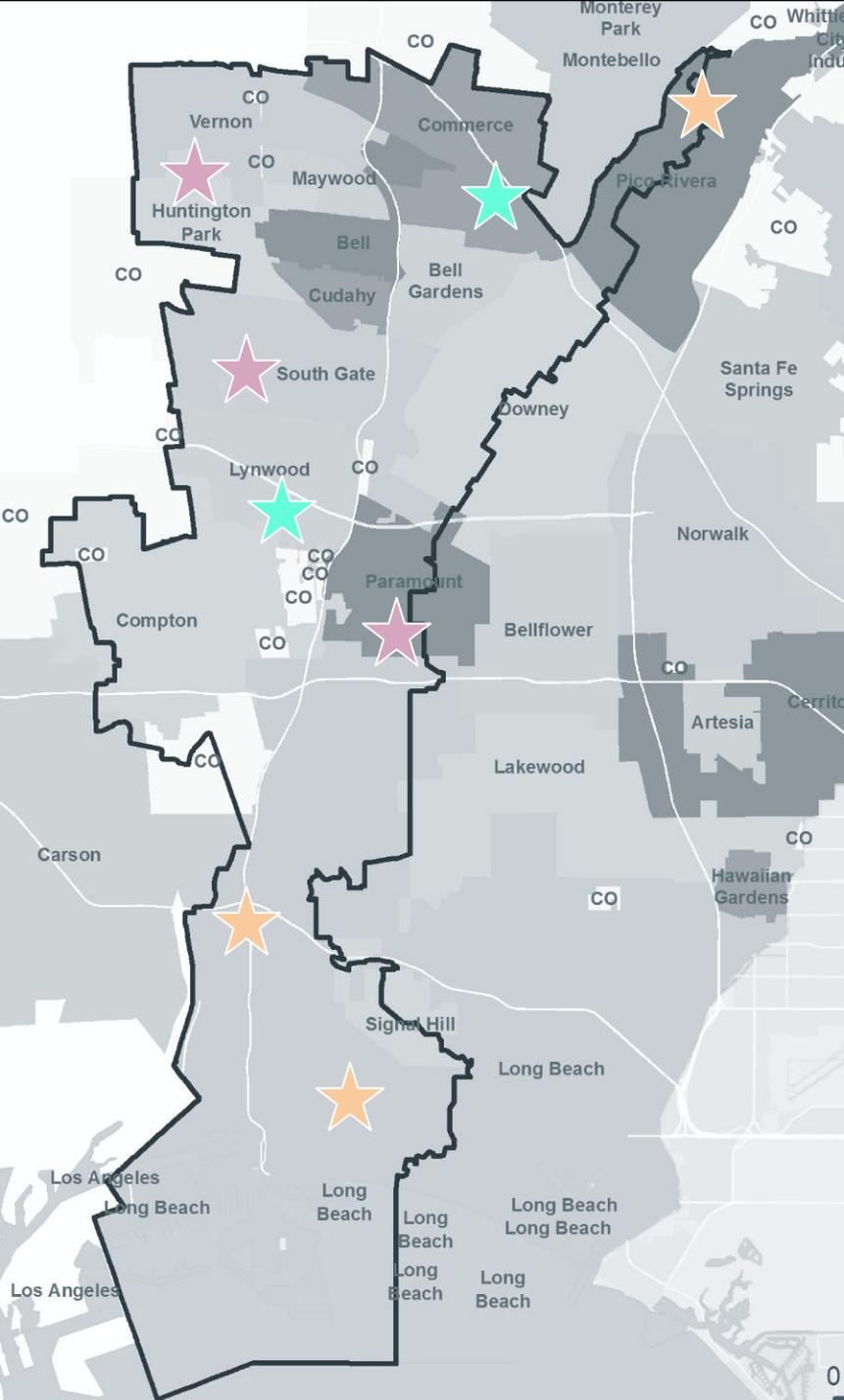
Decision of which to table at based on:

1. Location (equal focus across entire watershed)
2. Type of event (good engagement plus access to large amount of people)

### PROPOSED SPLIT:

- X2 big events
- X2 market events
- X1 educational event
- X1 clean up event





### **TABLING SLOTS AVAILABLE:**

1. September, 25 - [City of Commerce](#): Summer Concert 2021
2. October, 30 - [City of Lynwood](#): Halloween Festival 2021

### **PENDING EVENT INFO OR RECURRING EVENTS:**

3. September, 18 - [City of South Gate](#): Hollydale Park Community Info Session
4. Monthly - [City of Paramount](#): First Fridays Night Market
5. Every Wednesday - [Huntington Park](#): Farmer's Market

### **OPTIONS NOT YET SET:**

6. [Pico Rivera](#): WRD Albert Robles Center for Water Recycling and Environmental Learning - Table with Lower San Gabriel Watershed Coordinator at existing Educational Event
7. [Watershed Wide](#): Coastal / River Clean Up
8. [Long Beach](#): Parks & Rec Event

### **WASC QUESTIONS**

1. Any other ideas for events?
2. Are you fine with the idea of a co-hosting an event with Lower San Gabriel WC?



# COST-SHARE DATABASE



# COST-SHARE DATABASE

A database of 46 cost-share resources, including:

1. General Funding Websites
2. Specific Funding Opportunities
3. Foundations, Philanthropies, and Corporate Grants
4. Measures and Propositions

These were identified through:

- Reviewing submitted SCWP projects and their cost-share partners
- Online search
- Existing grant databases

# COST-SHARE DATABASE

## SAMPLE EXCERPT FROM DATABASE

3- FOUNDATIONS, PHILANTHROPY & CORPORATE GRANTS		
NAME	DESCRIPTION	SCW Projects
<a href="#">California Community Foundation</a>	The California Community Foundation's wildfire relief fund supports intermediate and long-term recovery efforts for major California wildfires, as well as preparedness efforts. Since 2003, the fund has granted more than \$24 million to support relief and recovery efforts in the aftermath of devastating California wildfires.	
<a href="#">Costco Wholesale Corporation</a>	Costco Wholesale's primary charitable efforts specifically focus on programs supporting children, education, and health and human services in the communities where they do business.	
<a href="#">Crail-Johnson Foundation</a>	The mission of The Crail-Johnson Foundation is to promote the well-being of children in need, through the effective application of human and financial resources. They commit to being an advocate for children and to act as an agent for positive change. They endeavor to provide for immediate improvement in children's quality of life, as well as to provide opportunities for a future <u>life of quality</u> .	<b>Rancho Los Cerritos: Looking Back to Advance Forward</b> RLC has applied, or intends to apply, support for the project: Crail-Johnson Foundation <b>\$25,000</b>
<a href="#">David and Lucile Packard Foundation</a>	Improving the lives of children, families, and communities — and restoring and protecting our planet.	
<a href="#">Moore Family Foundation</a>	A private family foundation that works to protect natural resources and inspire future environmental stewards. Moore Charitable and its affiliates partner with nonprofit organizations that preserve open land and healthy forests; ensure clean and abundant water; advance marine and marine species protections; and foster conservation and community stewardship, including environmental, educational, and other local programs in our priority conservation and geographic areas and beyond.	



# FOCUS IN SEPTEMBER

1. Plan events
2. Lead monthly Watershed Coordinator meeting
  - TRP requirements
3. Reviewing Material/ Meet with with East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice & RMC about potential project concepts
4. Finalize presentation on TRP and start scheduling meetings with municipalities/ NGO's

# WASC ACTIONS

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- Vote on **SOEP Approval**
- Send **event ideas**
- Review **Cost-Share Database** and send any additions
- Let me know if you have any City Councils/Groups you would like **me to present at** about either:
  - ◆ Overview of SCWP
  - ◆ Technical Resource Program Process