

# Early Implementation Update



**SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM**



# Early Implementation Update Outline

- ☂ Opening Remarks (SD3/SD4)
- ☂ SCWP Program Goals & Themes
- ☂ Awards & Acknowledgements
- ☂ Implementation Timeline
- ☂ Scale & Impact
- ☂ Program and Project Highlights
- ☂ Lessons Learned
- ☂ Next Steps





# Opening Remarks



Sheila Kuehl  
LA County Supervisor, District 3



Janice Hahn  
LA County Supervisor, District 4



Sophie Freeman, District 3  
Associate Deputy for the Environment and Arts



Daritza Gonzalez, District 4  
Public Works, Parks & Rec, ISD Deputy



# Governance Committees

**170 committee members, including Board appointed subject matter experts**

-  **11 Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) Members**
-  **17 Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) members on each of the 9 WASCs**
  -  Diverse representation from cities, agencies, and community stakeholders (including business, environmental, environmental justice, and at-large seats)
-  **6 Scoring Committee members**

*If interested in applying to serve on a governance committee, please visit:*

<http://bos.lacounty.gov/About-Us/ContactUs?q=commissionservices>

(select/search committee of interest by committee name above)





# Stormwater Investment Plans FY21-22

**78**

new and continuing  
Infrastructure  
Program Projects  
representing nearly

**\$1 billion**

in investments over  
5 years (\$480 of  
SCW Regional  
Program dollars)

Capture stormwater  
from over

**207,000 acres**

Provide an increase in  
total 24-hr storage  
capacity of

**3,667 AF**

Provide an increase in  
annual average  
stormwater capture of

**54,664 AF**

Leverage other funding  
nearing

**\$500M**

Invest in projects  
benefiting  
disadvantaged  
communities totaling

**\$385M**

Are being  
implemented across

**38 Municipalities**





# Safe, Clean Water Program

The Safe, Clean Water Program provides local, dedicated funding to increase our regional water supply, improve water quality, and enhance our communities.





# Safe, Clean Water Program



- 🌊 **First of its kind program** that provides dedicated stormwater funding towards **integrated outcomes**
- 🌊 **Regional/watershed approach**
- 🌊 **Paradigm shift** to implementation of multi-benefit projects
- 🌊 **Equitable Investments** through funding disadvantaged communities, ever-improving engagement at all levels, Watershed Coordinators, and upcoming Educational Programs.





# Safe, Clean Water Program Goals

- ☪ Improve water quality
- ☪ Increase drought preparedness through stormwater capture
- ☪ Improve public health
- ☪ Invest in multi-benefit infrastructure
- ☪ Prioritize nature-based solutions
- ☪ Provide disadvantaged community benefits
- ☪ Leverage other funding





## Safe, Clean Water Program Goals, Cont.

- ☪ Provide a spectrum of project sizes
- ☪ Encourage innovation
- ☪ Invest in independent scientific research
- ☪ Provide proportional funding
- ☪ Ensure adaptive management
- ☪ Promote green jobs
- ☪ Provide ongoing operations and maintenance of projects





# Themes of Safe, Clean Water Program

## Collaboration

- ❖ Developed & implemented with diverse stakeholders
- ❖ Unique dedicated funding for multi-benefit stormwater projects
- ❖ Comprehensive and diverse governance committees

## Asset Management

- ❖ Funding for operation and maintenance
- ❖ Investments for long-term sustainability and resiliency
- ❖ Emphasis on Nature-Based Solutions

## Equity

- ❖ Dedicated investments into Disadvantaged Communities
- ❖ Watershed Coordinators build inclusion and connect communities with resources
- ❖ Technical Assistance

## Good Stewardship of Public Funds

- ❖ Accountability
- ❖ Transparency
- ❖ Reporting & Auditing
- ❖ Comprehensive tax relief options

## Education & Community Engagement

- ❖ Public & School Education
- ❖ Workforce Training
- ❖ Collaboration with other programs
- ❖ Community engagement throughout project stages





# Awards and Acknowledgements



**2021 Golden Eagle Nominee and Top 10 Productivity and Quality Award**  
Board of Supervisors Quality and Productivity Commission



**2021 Outstanding Sustainable Stormwater Project or Program**  
California Stormwater Quality Association



**2019 – First Place: Improving Water Quality Campaign (Large Service Population)**  
National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies





# Awards and Acknowledgements

“Implementation staff have clearly demonstrated their commitment to achieving the goals of the Safe Clean Water Program and its Credit Program by working with us to equitably recognize traditional and innovative water quality, water supply and community investment efforts.”

- Max Liles, NBC Universal (credit program applicant)

“I have observed a very thoughtful process by our WASC to select projects that will have both an impact on water quality and supply, as well as the quality of life in our communities where the projects will be built. This very valuable funding source is generating projects that would likely have never been built otherwise...”

- Lisa Rapp, Chair of the Lower San Gabriel River WASC





# A National Model

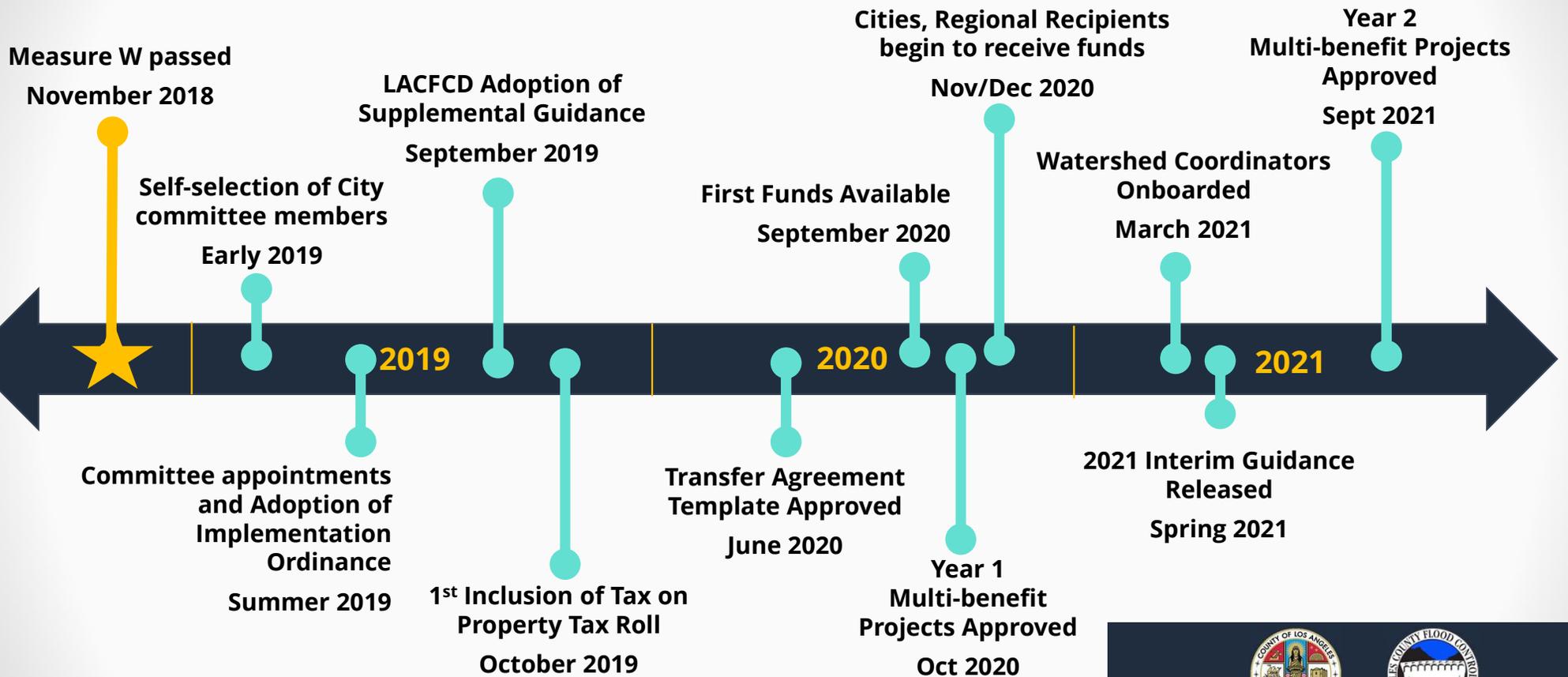
SCWP has been shared with a number of entities beyond the LACFCD boundaries, including but not limited to:

- American Water Works Association (AWWA)
- California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA)
- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) International Conference for Sustainable Infrastructure (ICSI)
- American Public Works Association (APWA) Center For Sustainability
- Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)
- American Water Resources Association (AWRA)
- Industrial Environmental Association (IEA)
- Asian American Architects & Engineers Association
- County Engineers Association of California (CEAC)
- Floodplain Management Association (FMA)
- American Ground Water Trust (AGWT)
- Urban Water Institute (UWI)
- California Contract Cities Association (CCCA)
- State and Regional Water Quality Control Board
- CA EPA – Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC)
- California Infrastructure Symposium (CIS)
- VerdeXchange
- CA State Department of Water Resources
- California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance (CCEEB)
- National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies (NAFSMA)
- United States Army Corps of Engineers
- Minister for Water for the Australian State of Victoria
- City of San Diego – Stormwater Department
- King County, Washington – Department of Natural Resources and Parks
- San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)



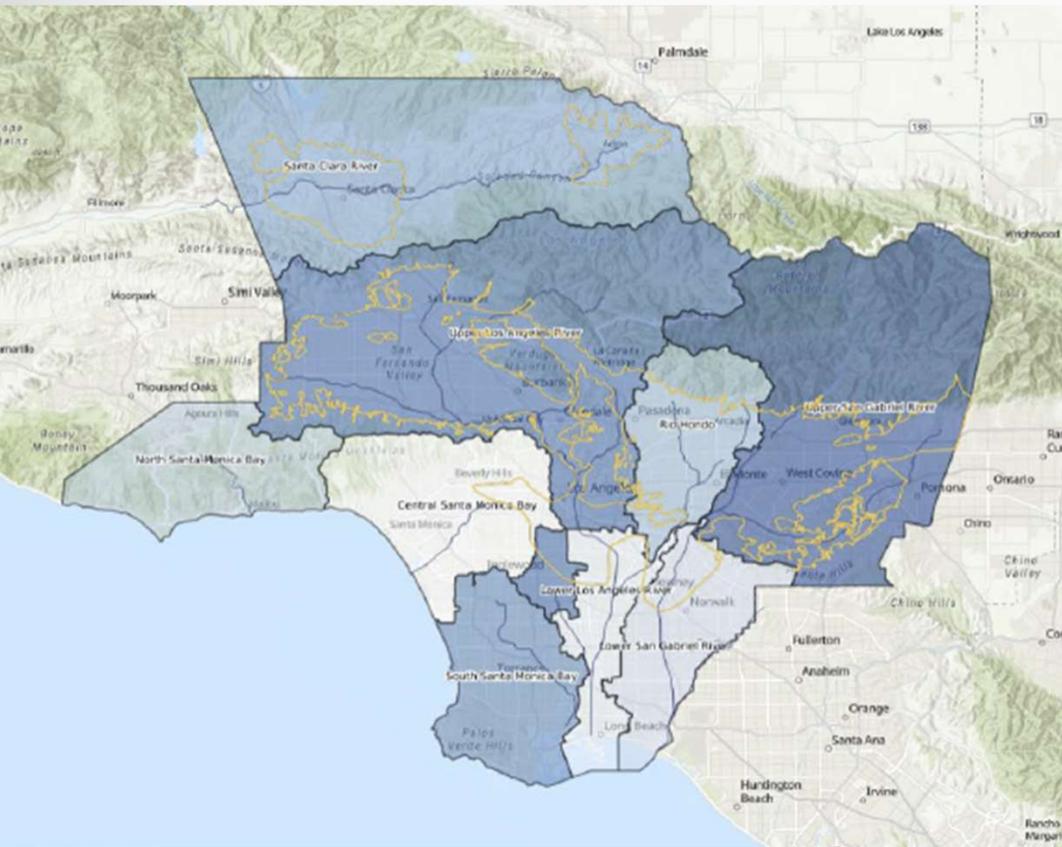


# SCWP Implementation Timeline





# SCWP Program Scale & Impact



Population of **nearly 9 million**  
served by Flood Control District

**2,700** square miles

**2.4** million parcels

**9** watershed areas





# SCWP Revenue & Tax Relief



Over **\$278 million** in revenue collected for FY2019-20



Over **\$2 million** of tax relief provided for FY2019-20  
(low-income senior exemptions, income-based discounts, credits, ad valorem, and appeals)



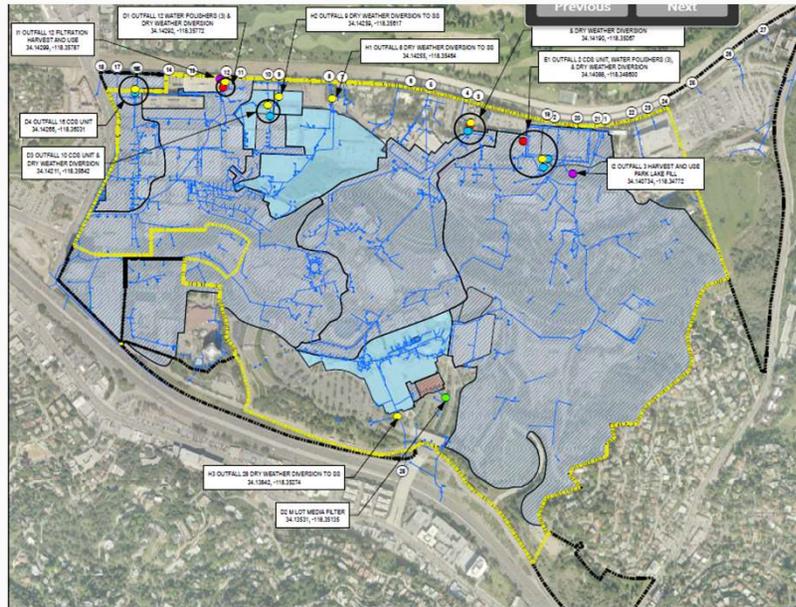
Including **\$1.2 million** in FY2019-20 reductions for on-site stormwater projects





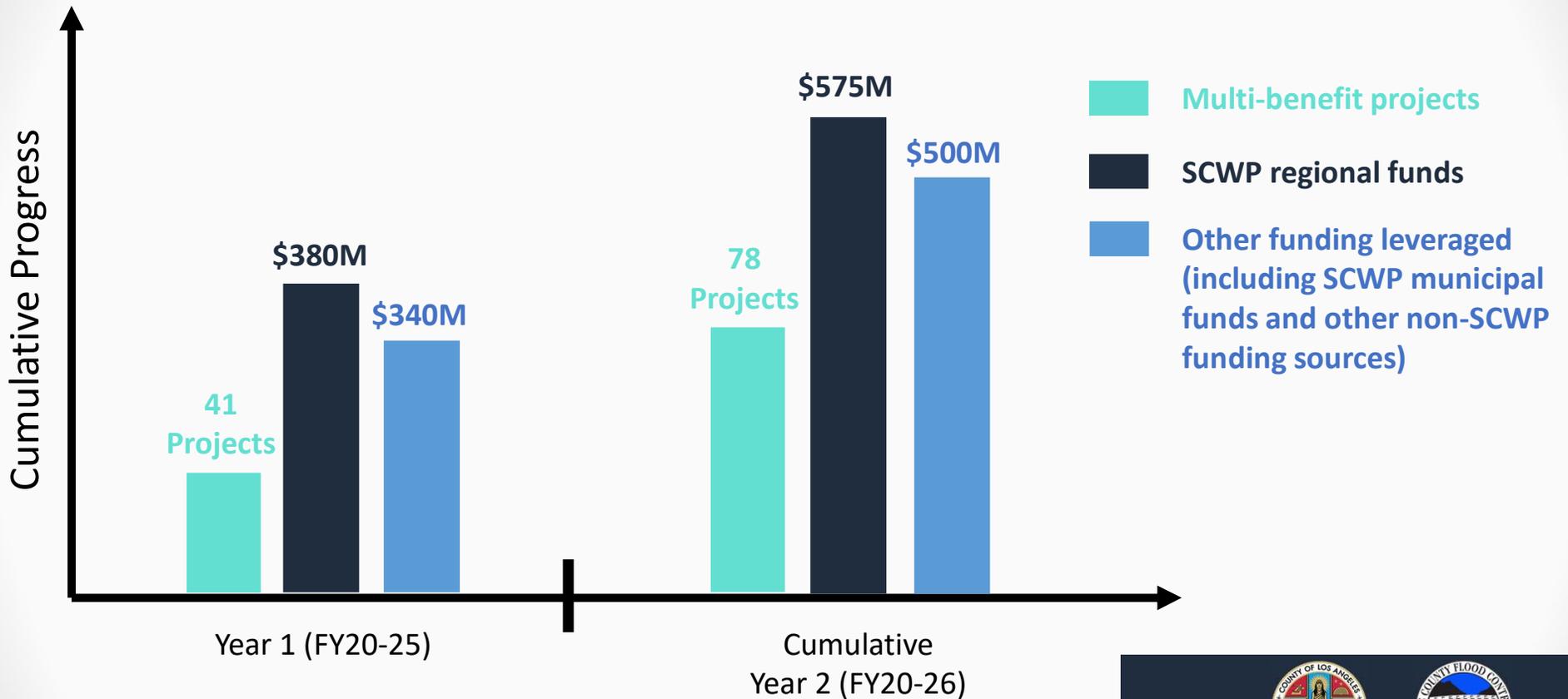
# Credit Program Highlight

- ↳ Tax credit to owners with qualifying stormwater improvements
- ↳ 14 approved applications; 120+ parcels; over \$2M in credits to date





# Regional Investment





# Project Highlight Franklin D. Roosevelt Park

## Water Quality

- 203-acre Watershed
  - Zinc
  - Bacteria
  - Trash
- 8.5 AF capacity

## Water Supply

- 50 AF / year  
(~100 households)



## Community Investment

- Improve Flood Management
- Enhance Park/Habitat
- Enhance Recreational Opportunities
- Reduce Heat Island Effect
- Increase Tree Canopy

## Nature Based Solutions

## Leveraged Funds & Substantial Community Support

\$4M in SCW Funding  
and benefits DAC





# Scientific Studies Highlight – PreSIP



CANDIDATE  
FEASIBILITY  
STUDIES



OTHER  
POTENTIAL  
PROJECTS



**BEST SIP**

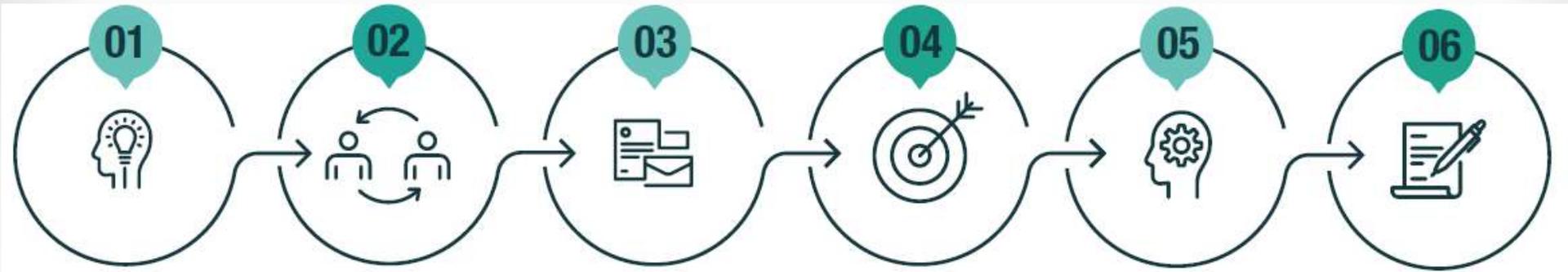
- Efficient & Balanced
- Defensible & Collaborative
  - Science-Driven
- Assurance of Compliance
- Adaptable & Accessible







# Technical Resources Program Watershed Coordinators



- **March 2021: 12 Watershed Coordinators onboarded**  
...and available to help solicit, coordinate, and help realize project ideas into feasibility studies!
- **August/September 2021: Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plans**
  - Characterize watershed areas
  - Identify interested parties
  - Establish vision for success and success criteria
  - Define strategies to support SCWP goals
  - Identify collaborative opportunities





# Municipal Program



Monitoring



Street Sweeping & other activities

- **86 Municipal Fund Transfer Agreements**
- Disbursement of **~\$112M in annual funds** is dependent on active Transfer Agreement and completed **Annual Plan**
- **First Reports** due December 2021





# Communications, Education and Engagement



**12 watershed coordinators** in place to facilitate engagement



**200+** community presentations and stakeholder forums during implementation (outside of committee meetings)



**125,000** website visits to [safecleanwater.org](http://safecleanwater.org)



**16,500+** general email list subscribers, plus individual watershed areas





# SCWP Lessons Learned to Date

- 🚰 Unprecedented programs have **unique complexities**
- 🚰 The more Program **success metrics linked to defined Goals**, the better
- 🚰 **Sustained & strategic communications and engagement** are key
- 🚰 **Guidance and standardization** is essential for governance committee operations
- 🚰 **Supplemental capacity** to craft (& leverage) project concepts should be encouraged
- 🚰 **Broader context is needed** for certain high-level and regional issues (e.g., WHAM)
- 🚰 **Ongoing adaptive management** is critical



# Next Steps – Ongoing Implementation alongside Adaptive Management



Utilize latest guidance



Advance Annual SIP  
development (Year 3)



Report intake and analysis



Gather feedback



Metrics and Monitoring Study



Provide updated/additional guidance



Provide updated/additional tools



Revisit adopted Guidelines and/or  
Ordinance



Expand Education Programs

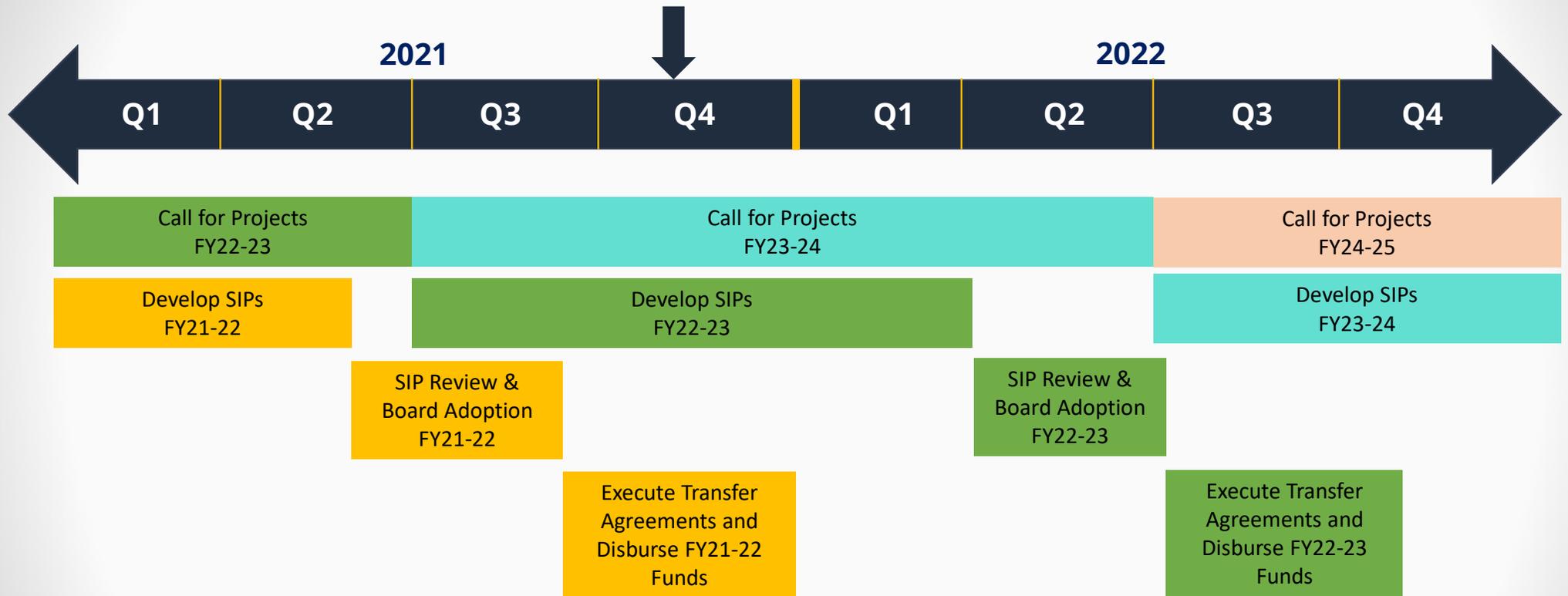


WHAM Coordination





# Next Steps – Regional Program Cycle

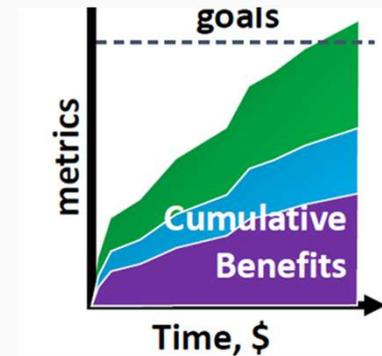




# Next Steps Metrics and Monitoring Study



- Identifying opportunities & methods to achieve SCWP goals at watershed scale
- Modeling
- Development of potential new metrics
- Extensive stakeholder engagement & education





# Next Steps - Metrics example In-progress ARLA study

## Maximizing and Balancing the Benefits of SCWP

1

### DEFINE METRICS

Select test metrics for certain SCWP goals

2

### BUILD PILOT WATERSHED MODEL

Assess benefits of implementation across multiple potential project metrics

3

### BUILD CONSENSUS

Weigh benefits and tradeoffs with Working Group

4

### GENERATE RECOMMENDATIONS

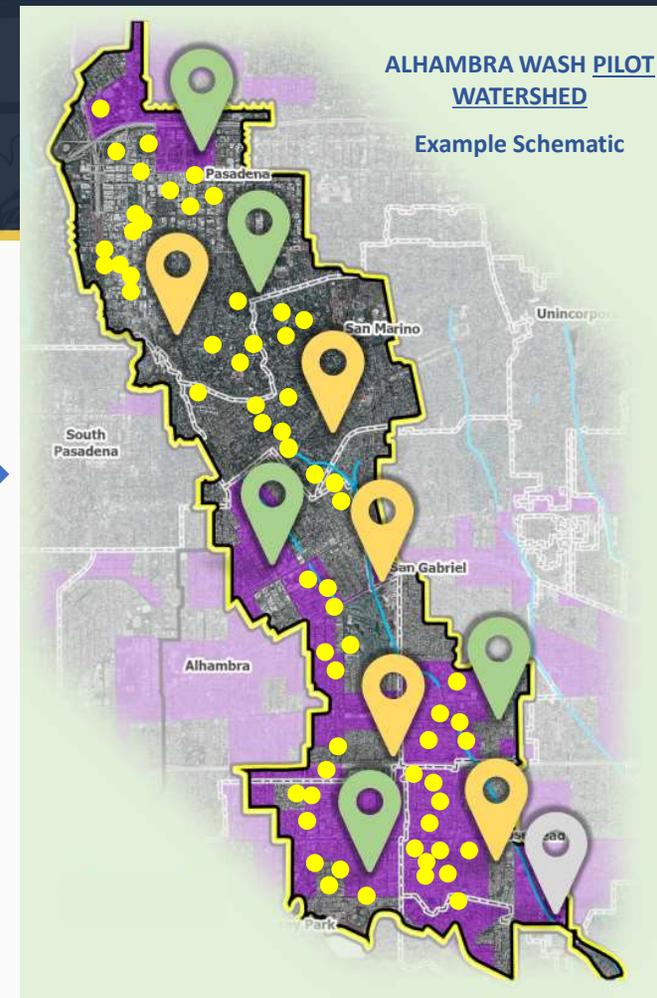
Consider how to potentially maximize investments and project benefits

5

### REGION SCALE-UP VIA LACFCD!

Build on pilot and Working Group framework for regional success

## SCIENCE & CONSENSUS-BASED RECOMMENDATIONS



A Working Group led by Accelerate Resilience L.A.

Lisa Rapp, GWMA/City of Lakewood • Bruce Reznik, OWLA/LA Waterkeeper • Rowan Roderick-Jones, OWLA/TNC  
Susie Santilena, City of LA • Alex Tachiki, SGVCOG/City of Monrovia • Tiffany Wong, OWLA/SCOPE



# Next Steps – 2022 Guidance

## Drafting of Anticipated 2022 Guidance:

- Disadvantaged Community Benefits (Update)
- Nature Based Solutions (Update)
- Community Engagement (New)
- Water Supply Benefit (New)

Tentative 6-week Public Review Period  
Jan 31 to March 14, 2022

Finalize 2022 Guidance  
Late April 2022

ROC Meeting re:  
public comments &  
2022 Guidance  
Late March 2022

Stakeholder  
Coordination via  
Metrics & Monitoring

2021

2022





# Next Steps – Refresh/Update Program Tools

## Welcome to the Safe Clean Water Portal

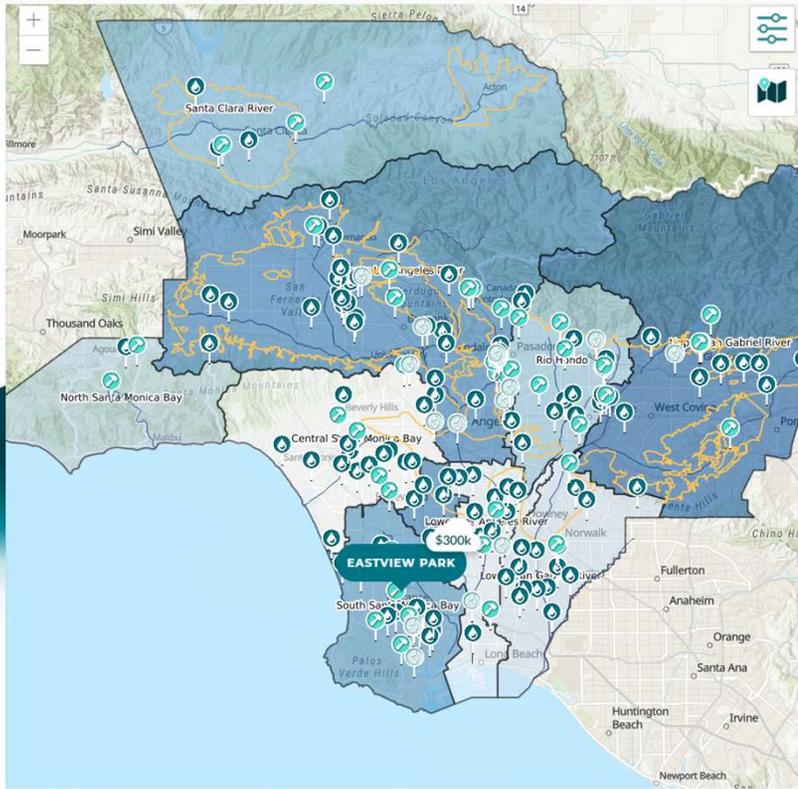
Learn about Safe Clean Water Program projects, benefits and expenditures. We are protecting public health and our environment while maximizing a cleaner, locally-controlled water supply.

### Find a project

 Keyword Search

### Projects Map

Explore projects that have been funded and project applications currently under consideration. Click to learn more about regional projects, scientific studies and



- SCWP Website
- SCWP Portal / Dashboard
- Reporting Module
- Project Module
- SIP Programming Tool
- Integrated GIS mapping tools





## Next Steps – District Education Programs



- Hold stakeholder convenings to advise on District Education program development
- Develop education and engagement grants program
- Invest in workforce development
- Invest in schools – project development and curriculum
- Project educational tours





## Next Steps – WHAM Coordination



A vision plan for multiple benefits from WHAM at DeForest Park in Long Beach.  
(from UCLA IoES WHAM Research project; image courtesy of City of Long Beach)

Integrated planning and co-investment in multi-benefit projects across LA County funding measures (W, H, A, &M)

- 7 Pilot Projects for Metrics
- Technical Assistance
- Workforce Development
- More...





# This is just the beginning..

In the next 10 years, SCWP will invest nearly \$3 billion, leveraging hundreds of millions of additional dollars, in projects and programs that will have a measurable positive impact on the region's **water supply, water quality, and the enhancement of our communities.**





# How to Stay Involved



[www safecleanwaterLA.org](http://www safecleanwaterLA.org)



[SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov](mailto:SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov)



833-ASK-SCWP

