



Legg Lake

Rio Hondo Watershed Area

Watershed Coordinator Q2 Quarterly Report

Prepared for the Rio Hondo Watershed Area Steering Committee
by Richard Watson & Associates, Inc. (RWA)

January 13, 2022

Watershed Coordinator Quarterly Report

A Project of Safe, Clean Water L.A.

Watershed: **Rio Hondo**

Watershed Coordinator: **Richard Watson & Associates, Inc. (RWA)**

WC Contact: [email]: rwatson@rwaplanning.com; jmillett@rwaplanning.com

Quarterly Report [#] **2**

[Date of Submission] **1-13-2022**

[Contract start date] **6-24-2021**

A. Summary of Activities

Provide a high-level summary of activities completed this quarter and progress made toward completion of the annual scope of work.

Required elements of the Quarterly report to achieve in this summary are:

- *Strategies used to integrate priorities for the community, municipalities, the watershed area, and the region*
- *Document the extent of partnerships and networks you have engaged*
- *Document your effort to engage a broad set of conventional and unconventional stakeholders*

Required elements detailed below that you should mention here:

- *Any of the four required engagement meetings you held during the quarter*
- *Either of the two required educational events you held during the quarter*
- *Highlights or summary of types of meetings you attended held by others*
- *Summary of cost-share partner relationship development*
- *Summary of leverage funding pursuits*

This Q2 report reflects work performed from September 25 through December 24, 2021.

Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator Team strategies to integrate Program priorities for the community, municipalities, the watershed area, and the region, include:

- 1. Engage stakeholders, municipalities, community groups.**
- 2. Solicit input, connect to technical assistance (TA) opportunities**
- 3. Ensure diverse perspectives are shared with the District and WASCs.**
- 4. Identify and ensure the involvement of members of disadvantaged communities and underrepresented communities.**
- 5. Identify educational programming about watershed management, ecological, and community involvement.**

This Section A, Summary of Activities, will be organized by these identified strategies.

Strategy 1 – Engage Stakeholders, municipalities, community groups

The Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan, which serves as a guidance for the activities of the Watershed Coordinator team in the Rio Hondo Watershed, was presented in its final form and approved by the WASC during its October 19, 2021 meeting.

- Work in Q2 included a review of both approved and submitted projects and the relationships between them. The WASC Chair requested this information to help WASC members have an increased understanding of future monies needed for completion of the projects that have already been approved. Toward the end of the work period, the Watershed Coordinator team started a deeper analysis of the approved and submitted IP and TRP projects in terms of sub-watersheds and tributary areas to gain a better understanding of the volumes of water available to the various projects, and how any new proposed projects could impact planned project performance.
- Conducted analysis re: future expenditures required/future budget for Rio Hondo Watershed Area.

- The Watershed Coordinator team participated in two virtual events and one in-person outreach event (hosted by Nature for All), during which we were able to directly engage with community members and have discussions about water quality, community goals, and the Safe, Clean Water Program.
- Reached out to Cities in the southern part of the Watershed Area to meet with municipal staff re: SCWP program and possible introductions to community groups active in the area.
- Conducted field trips for Watershed Area reconnaissance and proposed project review/meeting with proponents
- Met with Consultant for City of El Monte re: SCWP goals in relation to City activities
- Worked on funding options (potential outside grants/ability to leverage funding) available to project proponents in addition to SCWP monies included: monitoring SGVCOG Water Committee Meetings (Oct), a Clean CA Grant webinar, an EPA finance meeting, an Urban Water Grants seminar
- Participated in monthly Watershed Coordinator meetings; had additional calls/meetings with individual Watershed Coordinators from other watershed areas.
- Participated in two environmental equity workshops.
- Participated in San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network meeting.
- Monitored additional SCWP program activities, including the October 2021 Regional Oversight Committee meeting, and November 17, November 22, and December 9 Scoring Committee meetings to better understand approaches of the three newest members of the Committee and hear their discussion of Rio Hondo projects.
- Initiated social media presence (Instagram account); periodic social media account updates and engagements.
- Corresponded with SCWP staff, project proponents; maintained/updated Interested Party list

Strategy 2 – Solicit input, connect to Technical Resource opportunities

- The Watershed Coordinator team solicited ideas from community members during the aforementioned outreach events (hosted by Nature for All). One preliminary idea was shared by a community member, and the team documented the project idea. It is not currently an idea that would likely be able to be developed into a SCWP project, but the team will keep it in mind in reviewing the project landscape in case there is a future opportunity to create a project from this idea that would fulfill program goals.

Strategy 3 – Ensure diverse perspectives are shared with the District and WASCs.

- Reviewed articles and demographic information about communities within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area. In particular, the team researched the Chinese population in San Gabriel Valley and drafted a memo for WASC members regarding the large population that would benefit from having printed materials translated into written Chinese, as was done for the Spanish-speaking communities. (Note: Mandarin and Cantonese are different spoken languages, but the written language is the same; in demographic information, including the U.S. Census, the languages Mandarin and Cantonese are generally referred to jointly as “Chinese,” in reference to a shared written language.)

Strategy 4 – Identify and ensure the involvement of members of disadvantaged communities and underrepresented communities.

- Worked on disadvantaged community research re: Rio Hondo Watershed Area (via redesign.la, etc.)
- Participated in water equity and anti-racism workshops with other Watershed Coordinators, facilitators, and other interested parties.
- Monitored LAR Urban Water Foundation Partnership meeting.
- Continued research on the large traditionally disadvantaged community areas located within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area as particular areas of focus for project solicitation/potential development.

- Analyzed projects (IP and TRP) by sub-watershed/tributary area to understand the relationships of projects and how they would impact each other if/when operational.

Strategy 5 – Identify educational programming about watershed management, ecological, and community involvement

- Conducted Watershed Area outreach through participation in three Nature for All events - two virtual educational workshops, and one all-day tour and hike of the SGV area with interested community members.
- Worked on educational presentation to be given to a municipal audience during a planned Q3 educational event.
- Attended technical webinar: "*Recycle the Runoff, A Roadmap for Stormwater Diversions - A Technical Webinar with LA County San Districts*," sponsored by Council for Watershed Health (<https://www.watershedhealth.org/recycle-the-runoff>)
- Monitored LSGR educational virtual workshop.
- Reviewed Watershed Area City calendars of events to look for potential joint event opportunities
- Reviewed outreach materials prepared by or being used by other SCWP Watershed Coordinators.
- Initiated planning/script/story boarding for educational video shoot (Video to be posted online, linked to on Instagram acct, and shared with our interested parties list once completed – planned for early 2022.)
- Researched CBO/NGO events in Watershed Area re: potential participation/collaboration, and contacted organizations
- Worked on planning for timing, content, and focus of Q3 and Q4 education and outreach events, including events to be jointly convened with neighboring Watershed Coordinators

B. Engagement Meetings Held or Attended

Use the table below for high-level summary of all engagement events held or attended. Flag for events held, and attach attendance records and materials provided. Add an attachment number here and on the attachment to correlate. Add rows when needed.

	Meeting or Event	Date	Summary of Meeting or Event	Stakeholders Engaged	Held or Attended?	Attachments #
1	Nature for All Community Education Course (virtual meeting)	11/17/2021	Session 3 of a 4-part free training for San Gabriel Valley residents. The intention of the sessions is to empower community members to be part of the decision-making process in terms of park and water funding; learn how to bring healthy urban greening to the community; advocate for local parks, public lands, mountains, water resilience, and access; and learn where the community's water comes from, how drought impacts us, and actions community members can take to be water-smart.	Community members	Attended	Attachment 1 (Slide set presented)
2	Nature for All – Community Education Course, Tour of the San Gabriel Mountains, River, and Parks	11/20/2021	8am – 3pm tour led by Nature for All Program Manager	Community members	Attended	NA
3	City of South El Monte	11/22/2021	Municipal stakeholder meeting	Cameron McCullough (consultant to City)	Held	NA
4	Nature for All Water Warriors Course (virtual)	12/8/2021	Session two of a three-part community education workshop series	Community members	Attended	Attachment 2 (slide set presented)

			aimed at residents of the Cities of Alhambra, Azusa, Monterey Park, and Sierra Madre (sponsored by SGV Municipal Water District).			
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C. Potential Cost-Share Partners Contacted

Provide a list of potential cost-share partners contacted for projects within and adjacent to the Watershed Area. Attach relevant materials. Add an attachment number here and on the attachment to correlate. Add rows when needed.

Potential Partner Name	Date First Contacted	Project name / type	Nature of potential partnership	Attachments #
<i>NA – Q2 cost-share work still research-based</i>				<i>List of potential future cost-share partners Attachment 3</i>

D. Leveraged / Outside Funding Pursued

Share all outside funding opportunities pursued and the status or outcome of the pursuit. Attach relevant materials. Add an attachment number here and on the attachment to correlate. Add rows when needed.

Potential Outside Funding Source	Status or Outcome of the Pursuit	Attachments #
<i>NA</i>	<i>No outside funding pursued in Q2 in Rio Hondo Watershed. Outside funding will be considered for proposed FY 2023-24 projects.</i>	<i>List of potential outside funding sources attached as Attachment 4</i>

E. Detailed Progress Report

Provide an update on the amount of effort expended for each Task this quarter and note percentage complete:

Task #	Task	Total Task Level of Effort (from workplan)	LOE this quarter	Accumulated LOE to-date (from monthly reports)
1	Facilitate Community Engagement	50%	22%	49%
2	Identify and Develop Project Concepts	10%	8%	6%
3	Work with Technical Assistance Teams	5%	0%	0%
4	Facilitate Identification and Representation of Community Priorities	10%	31%	17%
5	Integrate Priorities through Partnerships and Extensive Networks	0%	3%	1%

6	Cost-share Partners	5%	6%	3%
7	Leverage Funding	5%	12%	6%
8	Local Stakeholder Education	5%	9%	5%
9	Watershed Coordinator Collaboration	10%	10%	13%
	Overall	100%	100%	100%

F. Engagement efforts benefitting Disadvantaged Communities

Summarize activities undertaken which have benefitted members of disadvantaged communities. Distinguish between targeted efforts and ones that could benefit all communities.

Activities thus far have focused on preparing for working with members of disadvantaged communities on potential year four projects.

G. Scheduling concerns or issues

Discuss any scheduling concerns and issues encountered that may delay completion of the program or project. Describe any anticipated schedule or budget modifications.

Magnitude and extension of covid-19 impacts on in-person gatherings was a problem in Q1 and Q2 and is anticipated to be a problem in Q3 due to the omicron variant.

H. Expected activities next quarter

Summarize expected activities in the next quarter, include dates, if known, for outreach or education events being held.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

- **Activities in Q3 will largely relate to contributing to the WASC’s decisions on FY 2022-23 proposed projects and developing community proposed projects for FY 2023-24.**
- **Conduct two outreach events**
 - **Tentatively one in south/southeastern portion of WA and one in northern area (probably virtual)**
- **Conduct one virtual educational event for municipal participants in Watershed Area**
- **Review lists of potential additional outreach partners identified by research and by the DACIP, and interview selected partners.**
- **Interview municipal stakeholders and selected other stakeholders in the Watershed Area.**
- **Meet with members/leadership of selected CBOs and NGOs that are active in the Watershed Area.**
- **Engage with selected communities to develop FY 2023-24 project concepts**
- **Continued development of social media outreach**
- **Continued coordination with other Watershed Coordinators.**
 - **Coordinate with Watershed Coordinators in surrounding Was to discuss opportunities to collaborate on outreach/education events and to understand the relationship of other areas’ project concepts and projects under development with the projects planned for the Rio Hondo Watershed Area (ongoing).**

- Update Interested Party Mapping list as new parties become known (ongoing).
- Interview GLAC-Region WaterTalks Leadership Group member(s) concerning results of outreach in area.
- Consult with project managers from TreePeople and the Council for Watershed Health, and their staff members who were involved in development of the Community Outreach and Needs Assessment tasks of the Los Angeles-Ventura Funding Area-Wide (DACIP) grant program and conduct further research on DACIP to understand how it can be utilized to assist disadvantaged communities in our Watershed Area.
- Update calendar of known events, including those previously planned by other groups, such as TreePeople, and determine relevance/ability to participate in such an event as an outreach or educational component of our Plan

SCWP PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

- Monitor projects proposed in adjacent Watershed Areas to determine potential for joint projects and existing projects that could impact the Rio Hondo Watershed Area (ongoing).
- Discuss potential project concepts with community members and municipalities and maintain project concept list (ongoing).
- Consult with Technical Assistance Teams assigned to work on feasibility studies included in approved WASC SIPs.
- Refer potential project proponent to SCWP Technical Resource team, as appropriate (ongoing).
- Review status of previously approved projects, as requested.

PROJECT FUNDING

- Continue development of lists of potential cost-share partners and applicable outside funding opportunities. Pursue opportunities, as applicable (ongoing).
- Develop and maintain list of potential grants. Pursue grants, as applicable (ongoing).

COORDINATION

- Continue to attend WASC meetings and monthly Watershed Coordinator Collaboration Meetings (ongoing).
- Work with other Watershed Coordinators to improve Watershed Coordinator program (ongoing).
- Submit monthly progress report to SCWP program staff (ongoing).
- Submit Q3 progress report after the end of the next quarter, which ends March 24, 2022.

ATTACHMENT 1:

**Slide Set Presented to Nature for All November 2021
Community Education Event**



Safe, Clean Water Program – Watershed Coordinators

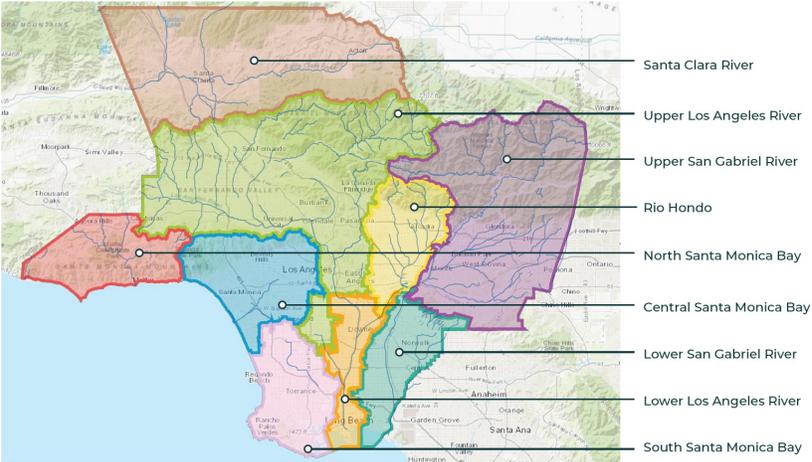
15 November 2021

Richard Watson & Julie Millett (RWA)




1

Safe, Clean Water Program Watershed Areas



Did you know?

A watershed is an area of land that contains a common set of streams and rivers that drain into a single larger body of water, such as a larger river, a lake, or an ocean.

Este folleto está disponible en inglés y español en www.safecleanwaterla.org

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For more information visit www.safecleanwaterla.org or call 1-833-ASK-SCWP



2

Watershed Coordinators = CONNECTORS

QA **What role does the Watershed Coordinator play?**
 Watershed Coordinators educate, build capacity in communities, and facilitate community and stakeholder engagement within the Safe, Clean Water Program. Each Watershed Area will typically have at least one Watershed Coordinator (number of positions is dependent on revenue and population for each Watershed Area).

QA **What kinds of projects are being developed?**
 Projects that provide Water Supply, Water Quality and Community Investment Benefits are eligible for Safe, Clean Water Program funding. Multi-Benefit Projects that prioritize Nature-Based Solutions and provide Disadvantaged Community Benefits are highly encouraged.

QA **What role do WASCs play?**
 Nine WASCs, made up of representatives from cities, agencies, and community stakeholders, review proposed projects and develop annual SIPs that identify recommendations for funding under the three regional subprograms – the Infrastructure, Technical Resources, and Scientific Studies Programs.

QA **How can my idea become a project?**
 Technical Resources Program support is available to help develop feasibility studies from project concepts. Infrastructure Program funding is available for the design, construction, and/or operations and maintenance costs of projects that already have a completed feasibility study.

- Connecting community members who have project ideas with cities and others who could partner with them on project development.
- Connecting applicants with technical resources to see if a great project idea could develop into a great project

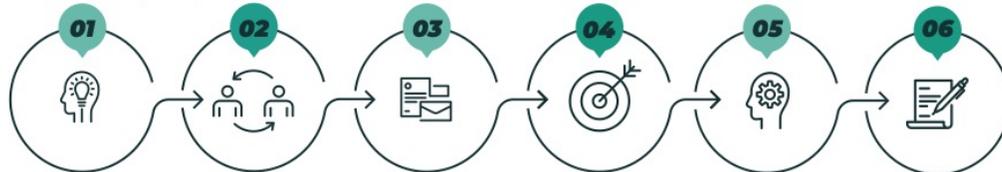
3



Getting Help with Your Stormwater Idea

Using the Technical Resources Program to Receive Support from the Safe, Clean Water Program.

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



01 Municipality, CBO, NGO, or organization/individual has an idea for a Multi-Benefit Project in their community but does not yet have a feasibility study satisfying the 19 minimum requirements in SCW Feasibility Study Guidelines.

02 Project proponent engages with relevant Watershed Coordinator and formalizes project concept.

03 Project proponent submits the project concept to the relevant Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) through the Safe, Clean Water project module for Technical Resources Program support.

04 WASC selects project concepts for further development and recommends selected concepts in its Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) to receive support from Technical Assistance Teams.

05 Board approves SIPs and District Technical Assistance Teams begin work with project proponent to develop a project feasibility study.

06 Project proponent uses feasibility study developed by the Technical Assistance Teams to submit an application to the Infrastructure Program.

Anticipated Total Time Elapsed: 26 - 40 Months



If project is deemed infeasible or does not meet Safe, Clean Water Program requirements for Infrastructure Program funding, project proponent should not apply for Infrastructure Program funding.

4

Mayfair Park Water Capture Project

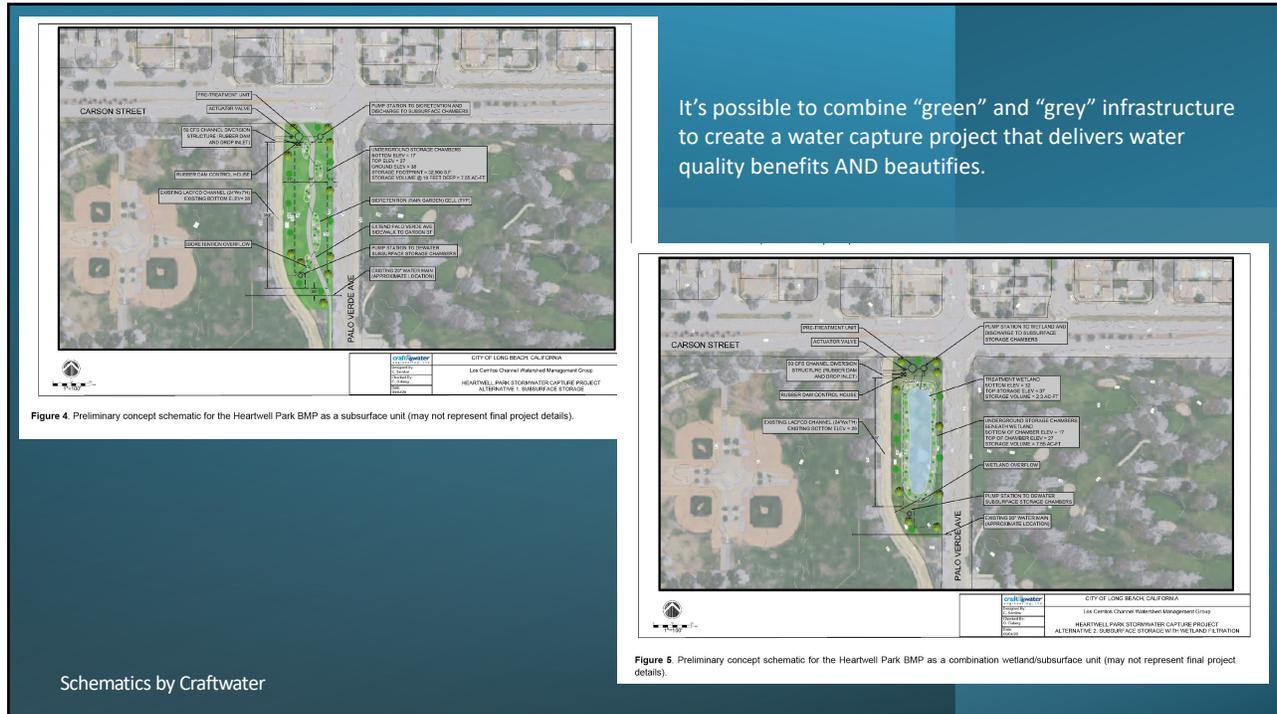


5



Caruthers Park Water Capture Project

6



7

Questions/Watershed Coordinator Contact Info

Richard Watson
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 949-394-8495

Julie Millett
jmillett@rwaplanning.com
 310-980-1534



Monrovia Canyon Park, Photo Courtesy City of Monrovia





8

ATTACHMENT 2:

**Slide Set Presented to Nature for All December 2021
Water Warriors Education Event**



Safe, Clean Water Program –

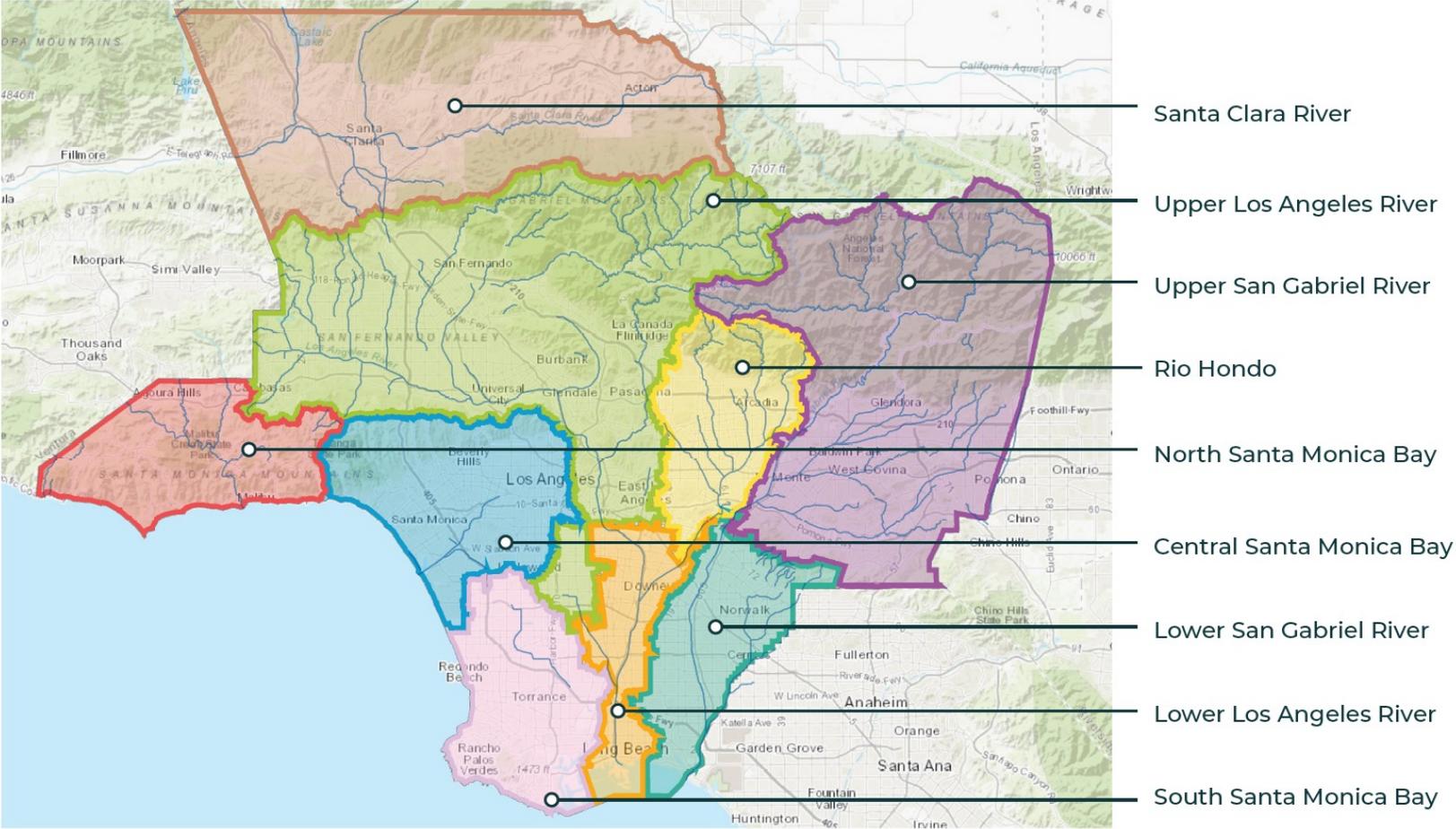
Watershed Coordinators

17 November 2021

Richard Watson & Julie Millett (RWA)



Safe, Clean Water Program Watershed Areas



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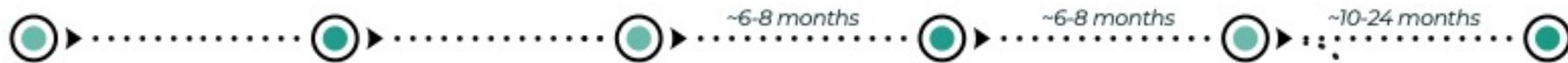
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Mayfair Park Water Capture Project





Caruthers Park Water Capture Project

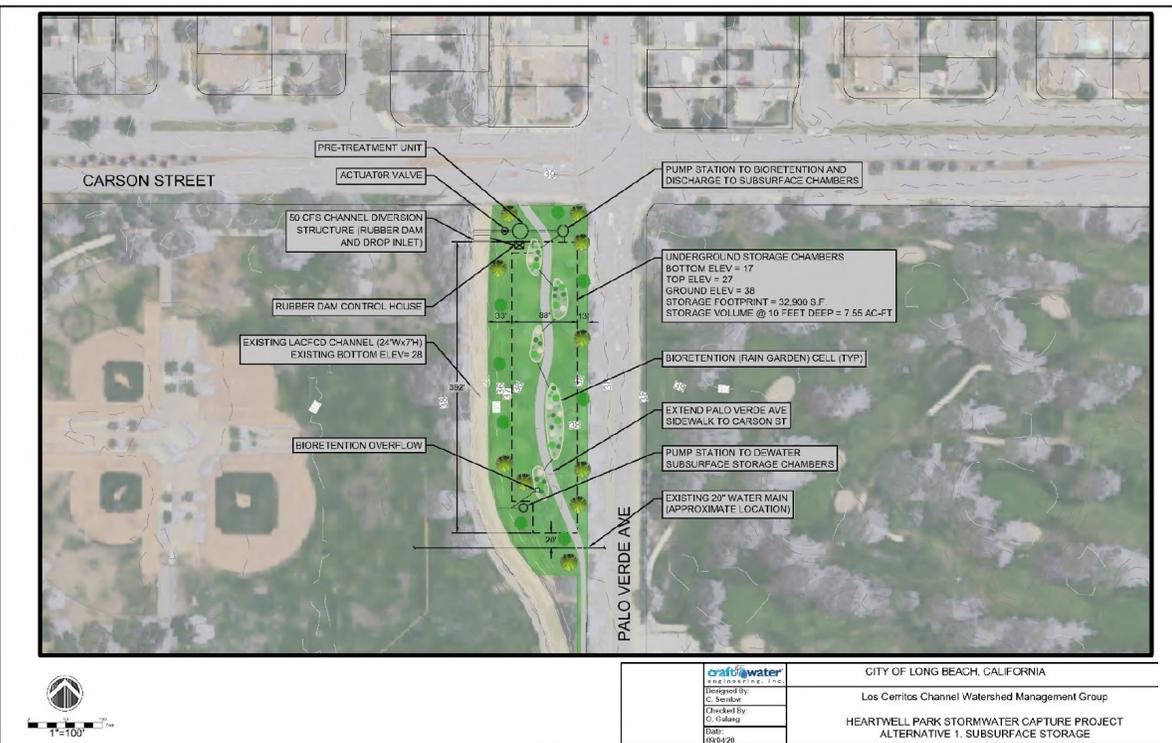


Figure 4. Preliminary concept schematic for the Heartwell Park BMP as a subsurface unit (may not represent final project details).

It's possible to combine "green" and "grey" infrastructure to create a water capture project that delivers water quality benefits AND beautifies.

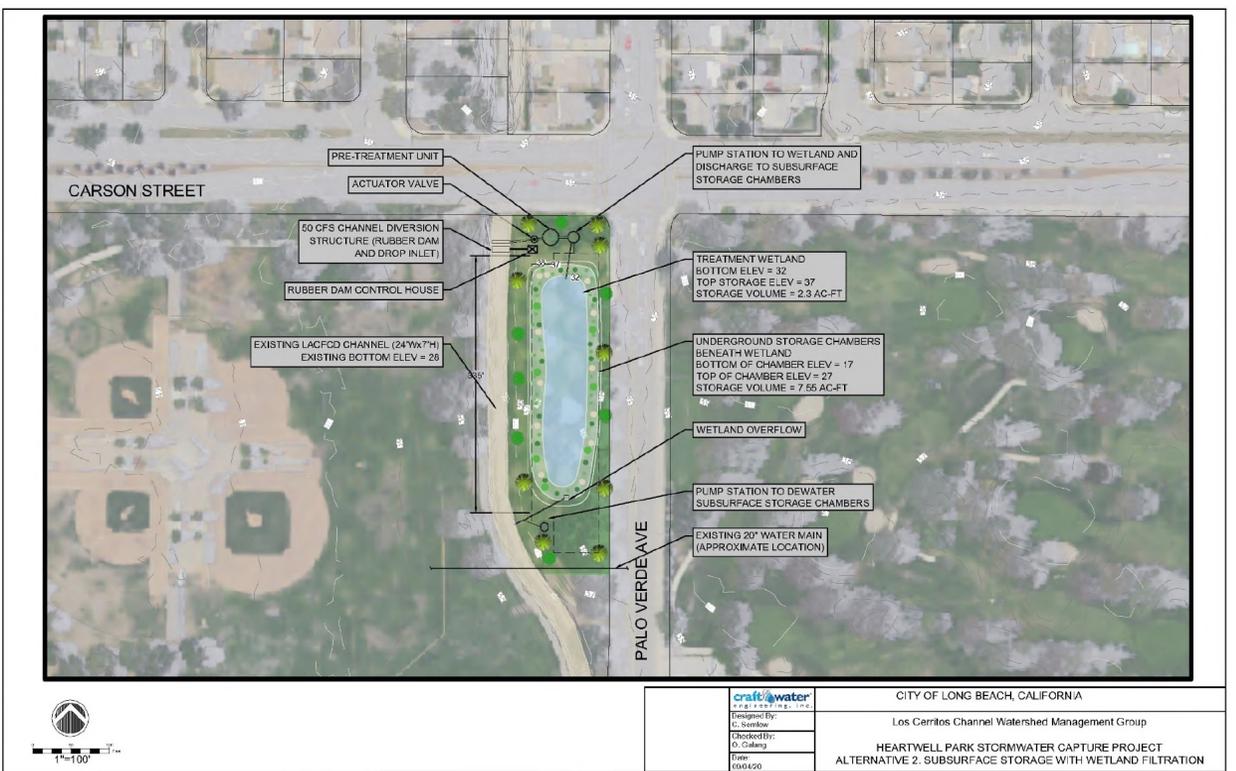


Figure 5. Preliminary concept schematic for the Heartwell Park BMP as a combination wetland/subsurface unit (may not represent final project details).



Questions/Watershed Coordinator Contact Info

Richard Watson

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Monrovia Canyon Park, Photo Courtesy City of Monrovia



ATTACHMENTS 3-5:

QUARTERLY UPDATED LISTS

Attachment 3: Potential Cost-Share Partners

Attachment 4: Potential Outside Funding Opportunities

Attachment 5: Stakeholders

ATTACHMENT 3

LIST OF POTENTIAL COST-SHARE PARTNERS

- Caltrans Cooperative Implementation Agreement Program
- Foundations
- Los Angeles Community College District
- Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (METRO)
- Main San Gabriel Water Master
- Members of the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
- Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- Rebuild SoCal Partnership
- Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
- San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority
- San Gabriel Mountains Conservancy
- San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
- Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
- Upper San Gabriel Water District

ATTACHMENT 4

LIST OF POTENTIAL SOURCES OF APPLICABLE OUTSIDE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- California Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
- California Clean Water State Revolving Fund
- California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank State Revolving Fund
- Caltrans Clean California Local Grant Program
- Caltrans Cooperative Implementation Agreement Program
- California Prop 1 Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act
- Future California Water Bond (possibly before voters in 2022)
- Corporate Grants and/or Partnerships
- Federal Infrastructure Funding Program
- Foundation Grants
- Los Angeles County Measure A Park Bond
- Los Angeles County Measure H Housing Bond (marginal opportunity)
- Los Angeles County M Transportation Bond
- Municipal SCWP Funds

ATTACHMENT 5

STAKEHOLDERS LIST TO DISTRIBUTE SCWP AND WATERSHED AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

- AP3CON – Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council
- API Forward Movement
- Active SGV
- Communities for a Better Environment
- Day One El Monte
- From Lot to Spot
- Investing in Place
- Rebuild SoCal Partnership
- SGV Civic Alliance
- San Gabriel and Lower LA Rivers & Mountains Conservancy
- Water Education for Latino Leaders

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP ORGANIZATIONS

- Amigos de los Rios
- Council for Watershed Health
- Los Angeles WaterKeeper
- Nature for All
- Sierra Club San Gabriel Valley Taskforce
- TreePeople
- Trust for Public Land

NATIVE AMERICAN/TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Gabrieleño-San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
- Kizh Nation

CITY AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

- Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis – 1st District
- Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger – 5th District

- Alhambra – Jessica Binnquist, City Manager
- Alhambra – Ray Martin, Director of Public Works
- Arcadia – Dominic Lazzaretto, City Manager
- Arcadia – Tom Tait, Public Works Director
- Duarte – Danial Jordan, City Manager
- Duarte – Amanda Hamilton, Public Works Manager
- El Monte – Alma Martinez, City Manager
- El Monte – Sal Mendez, Public Works and Utilities Director
- Irwindale – William Tam, City Manager
- Irwindale – Arsanious Hanna, Director of Public Works & Chief Building Official
- Monrovia – Gloria Crudgington, Mayor Pro Tem
- Monrovia – Dylan Feik, City Manager
- Monrovia – Todd Hull, Deputy Director of Public Works
- Monrovia – Alex Tachiki, Deputy Director of Public Works
- Montebello – Rene Bobadilla, City Manager
- Montebello – James Enriquez, P.E., Director of Public Works/City Engineer
- Monterey Park – Ron Bow, City Manager
- Monterey Park – Frank Lopez, Director of Public Works
- Pasadena – Steven Mermell, City Manager
- Pasadena – Tony Olmos, Director of Public Works
- Rosemead – Margaret Clark, Council Member
- Rosemead – Gloria Molleda, City Manager
- Rosemead – Michael Chung, Director of Public Works
- San Gabriel – Mark Lazzaretto, City Manager
- San Gabriel – Greg de Vinkck, Director, Department of Public Works
- San Marino – Marcello Marlow, City Manager
- San Marino – Michael Throne, PE, Director of Parks and Public Works/City Engineer
- Sierra Madre – Gabe Engeland, City Manager
- Sierra Madre – Chris Cimino, Public Works Director
- South El Monte – Rachel Barbosa, City Manager
- South Pasadena – Diana Mahmud, Mayor
- South Pasadena – Armina Chaparyan, City Manager
- South Pasadena – Shahid Abbas, Public Works Director
- Temple City – Bryan Cook, City Manager

COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS

- MAD Town Council (representing unincorporated areas of Monrovia, Arcadia, and Duarte)
- San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

AGENCIES – Local and Regional

- Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (METRO)
- Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster
- Metropolitan Water District
- San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority
- San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
- San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control Community Affairs
- Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

AGENCIES – State and Federal

- California Conservation Corps
- California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Stormwater Program
- Caltrans Watershed Coordinator (Headquarters) District 7
- State Water Resources Control Board
- Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
- San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps
- US Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District
- US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9

WATER WHOLESALERS

- San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
- Upper San Gabriel Valley Water District

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- California Institute of Technology (Caltech) Pasadena
- East Los Angeles College (Monterey Park)
- Pasadena City College (Pasadena)

BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

- Chambers of Commerce for Rio Hondo Watershed
- San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership

OTHER INDIVIDUALS

- Belinda Faustina (Recommended Contact)
- Karen Suarez (Recommended Contact)
- Brian Tindel (Recommended Contact)