



Rio Hondo Watershed Area Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

Prepared for the Rio Hondo Watershed Area Steering Committee
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List of Acronyms

CBOs	Community-Based Organizations
EWMP	Enhanced Watershed Management Program
GLAC	Greater Los Angeles County
IRWM	Integrated Regional Water Management
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (Permit)
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
SCWP	Safe, Clean Water Program
TMDLs	Total Maximum Daily Loads
WASC	Watershed Area Steering Committee
WHAM	Measures W, H, A, and M in Los Angeles County
WMP	Watershed Management Program



Land Acknowledgement

The Watershed Coordinator team acknowledges the Gabrielino/Tongva peoples as the traditional land caretakers of Tonvaangar (Los Angeles Basin, Southern Channel Islands). Historic villages in or near the Rio Hondo Watershed area include Akuranga, Aleupkinga, Comicranga, Guichi, Hahamonga, Houtnga, Juyubit, Shevaanga, Sibanga, Toviseanga. We pay our respects to Honuukvetam (Ancestors), 'Ahihirom (Elders), and 'eyoohiinkem (our relatives/relations) past, present, and emerging.

Sources:

Greene, Sean and Curwen Thomas. *Mapping the Tongva Villages of L.A.'s Past*. Los Angeles: LA Times.com, 2019.

Mapping Indigenous LA, Los Angeles, CA. (Website)

Tongvapeople.org (Website)



Foreword

This update to the Rio Hondo Watershed Area SOEP reflects elements of the July 25, 2023 Board of Supervisors' motion entitled, *Accelerating the Safe, Clean Water Program*. One of the three (3) major efforts identified in the motion is a new District comprehensive planning program to identify areas that provide the most promising opportunities for developing impactful water quality, water supply, and community enhancing multi-benefit projects. The Coordinator Team proposes to build on its review of funded, proposed, and potential future projects to further strengthen the WASC project evaluation process by identifying and focusing on opportunities for future projects consistent with Section 18.07.D.3.c(2) of the Flood Control District Code. (See **Appendix A** for draft motion)

The Watershed Coordinator Team has also been researching workforce development and presented a workforce development focused program for the July 2023 meeting of the Watershed Coordinators. The nexus between the Watershed Coordinator program and workforce development programs – including existing workforce programs and the workforce program being developed by the District – is in its nascent stages. We do not yet have a formal recommendation to the WASC but will include information and program ideas in future monthly reports.

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1. Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of the Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP) is to establish a framework for implementing the Watershed Coordinator role within the Rio Hondo Watershed, as well as a framework for the WASC to provide oversight of the coordinator program and evaluate the performance of the Watershed Coordinator Team. In this third iteration of the SOEP, the Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator Team (“Team”) briefly discusses the context of the SOEP and presents an overview and description of the Watershed and an updated section on connecting with interested parties/stakeholders in the Watershed Area. This is followed by a discussion of lessons learned during the first two years of implementation. These lessons set up a framework for a set of outreach and engagement strategies, along with proposed metrics, an overview of evolving collaboration opportunities, and the team’s current vision for the outreach and engagement program.

This 2023 revision to the SOEP describes the actions the Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator Team is planning to take to encourage the involvement of stakeholders across the spectrum – from community members to elected officials – in collaborative implementation of the Safe, Clean Water Program. The Plan is designed to provide transparency and to be a dynamic, working guidance document that will be updated as lessons learned during Program implementation help us to better understand the needs of the Watershed Area and to refine methodologies used in pursuit of ongoing Program effectiveness and success in achieving SCWP goals.

Context of the SOEP

The primary context for development of the SOEP is Chapter 16 of the Flood Control District Code adopted as Measure W by a positive vote of 69.45% of the electorate on November 13, 2018. Section 16.02 of the code says:

“This ordinance is adopted to achieve the following purpose and directs that the provisions hereof be interpreted in order to:

- A. Impose a Special Parcel Tax upon parcels of property within the boundaries of the District at the rate of two and one-half (2.5) cents per square foot of Impermeable Area, except as exempted, to be used for the purposes set forth herein.*
- B. Provide funding for Programs and Projects to increase Stormwater and Urban Runoff capture and reduce Stormwater and Urban Runoff pollution in the District, including Projects and Programs providing a Water Supply Benefit, Water Quality Benefit, and Community Investment Benefit.”*

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The second major context is Chapter 18 of the Flood Control District Code, the “Safe, Clean Water



The San Gabriel Mountains seen from Monrovia.

Program Implementation Ordinance.” Section 18.02 contains additional definitions that apply to implementation of the Ordinance. The purpose of this Chapter of the Code is “to establish additional criteria and procedures related to implementation of the Los Angeles Region Safe, Clean Water Program described in Chapter 16 of this code.” Section 18.04 is especially relevant to the SOEP because it specifies that “the Los Angeles Region Safe, Clean Water Program shall be implemented consistent with the following goals:

- A. Improve water quality and contribute to attainment of water-quality requirements.*
- B. Increase drought preparedness by capturing more Stormwater and/or Urban Runoff to store, clean, reuse, and/or recharge groundwater basins.*
- C. Improve public health by preventing and cleaning up contaminated water, increasing access to open space, providing additional recreational opportunities, and helping communities mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change through activities such as increasing shade and green space.*
- D. Leverage other funding sources to maximize SCW Program Goals.*
- E. Invest in infrastructure that provides multiple benefits.*
- F. Prioritize Nature-Based Solutions.*
- G. Provide a spectrum of project sizes from neighborhood to regional scales.*
- H. Encourage innovation and adoption of new technologies and practices.*
- I. Invest in independent scientific research.*
- J. Provide Disadvantaged Community¹ Benefits, including Regional Program infrastructure investments, that are not less than one hundred and ten percent (110%) of the ratio of the DAC population to the total population in each Watershed Area.*

¹ The Watershed Coordinator Team acknowledges that the terms “disadvantaged communities” and “DACs” do not capture the full scope, character, and social/cultural richness of these communities and their residents. A better term will likely come into use in the next few years. However, due to the common usage of these terms to date, this SOEP will use the term “disadvantaged communities” for clarity.

K. Provide Regional Program infrastructure funds benefitting each Municipality in proportion to the funds generated within their jurisdiction, after accounting for allocation of the one hundred and ten percent (110%) return to DACs, to the extent feasible.

L. Implement an iterative planning and evaluation process to ensure adaptive management.

M. Promote green jobs and career pathways.

N. Ensure ongoing operations and maintenance for Projects.



View south across N. Montebello Road toward graded hills.

Regional Program Implementation

Section 18.07.D.3.c says that the duties and responsibilities of Watershed Coordinator(s) center around connecting potential applicants with technical resources and building inclusion and meaningful engagement in pursuit of SCW Program Goals and shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- (1) Work with Technical Assistance Teams to bring resources to potential Infrastructure Program Project Applicants;*
- (2) Work with Municipalities and Stakeholders to identify and develop Project concepts that may be elevated to the Watershed Area Steering Committees and Technical Assistance Teams to assist with development of Feasibility Studies;*
- (3) Identify and help leverage and secure additional funding sources for Regional Projects and Programs;*
- (4) Engage Municipalities, community groups, and other watershed Stakeholders to ensure diverse perspectives are included in planning and implementation of the Regional Program;*
- (5) Conduct community outreach to diverse communities, with an emphasis on disadvantaged communities;*
- (6) Provide leadership in community outreach efforts related to watershed planning;*

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- (7) *Facilitate collaborative decision-making between private and public entities to develop and implement actions that best address community priorities;*
- (8) *Integrate community, Municipality, and regional priorities through partnerships and extensive networks;*
- (9) *Organize public outreach events included in SIPs, such as workshops, demonstrations, community forums and restoration activities, to educate Stakeholders on stormwater-related topics;*
- (10) *Serve as non-voting members of the Watershed Area Steering Committees for the respective Watershed Areas; and*
- (11) *Collaborate with all other Watershed Coordinators and the District to help ensure consistency in implementation and to inform each other of effective efforts, outreach, and communication approaches, including sharing best practices and resources.*

The Watershed Coordinator team notes that numerous subsections of Section 18 of the Implementation Ordinance, together with Chapter 16 of the Flood Control District Act, indicate that the strategies in the SOEP and the decisions of the WASC must balance between the diverse and sometimes competing goals and requirements of the Safe, Clean Water Program. To the extent feasible, the strategies and actions outlined in Section 5 of this SOEP represent an appropriate balance of the perspectives of members of the WASC and the Watershed Coordinator's current understanding of the needs of the Watershed Area.

At the time of the writing of the first SOEP, the Team believed that a third potentially significant context for development of the SOEP was the work of the WHAM Taskforce that was convened by at the direction of the Board of Supervisors on December 3, 2019. The Taskforce was formed to create efficiencies across the implementation of Measures W, H, A, and M through coordinated planning and multi-benefit projects, increasing inter-agency and community coordination, and leveraging these funding sources with other local, state, and federal funding opportunities. In February 2020, a consultant was retained to support the Taskforce. The WHAM Taskforce Workplan outlined nine (9) programmatic goals and policy areas that are very similar to the duties and responsibilities of Watershed Coordinators.

During the first year of the WHAM Taskforce Work Plan, community-based organizations (CBOs) active in each of the Supervisorial Districts worked to identify 10 multi-benefit projects broadly supported by communities that could be completed within the next 10 years. These CBOs advocated an integrated approach to WHAM projects, but the responsible agencies continued to follow their individual decision-making processes. During the summer of 2021 a paper entitled, *"Mobilizing the Transformative Power of WHAM: Overcoming Obstacles to Integrated*

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*Infrastructure Investment in Los Angeles County*² was published. This paper contained a series of findings and recommendations.

The WHAM Task Force met in June 2021 and held a subsequent meeting in January 2022 that was open to stakeholders and other interested parties and that focused on project planning updates for seven (7) projects managed by METRO Public Works and LA County Parks. There was discussion during the meeting of the value of including the SCWP Watershed Coordinators in the process, which had not yet been a priority for the Task Force. The WHAM Coalition, an external group of advocates, was working on an integrated planning process throughout LA County that focused, in part, on creation of an organized coalition of NGO leaders for community investments. During the January 2022 meeting, the stated next steps were to build out workforce development and technical assistance components of the WHAM Coalition program.

The formal WHAM Taskforce and the NGO-formed WHAM Coalition appear to both have stopped operating under their original frameworks. The Taskforce evolved into a larger effort, [Infrastructure LA](#), which has a broad mission to advance the development of 21st century infrastructure through cross-sector collaboration and collaboration building. This group works with infrastructure stakeholders to pursue funding opportunities, advocate for community-focused infrastructure, and share strategies and tools for addressing infrastructure needs. The Acting Chief Sustainability Officer of the County's Chief Sustainability Office now co-chairs Infrastructure LA's Environmental, Sustainability & Resiliency Subcommittee. The Watershed Coordinator Team proposes to investigate this program as a potential future partner.

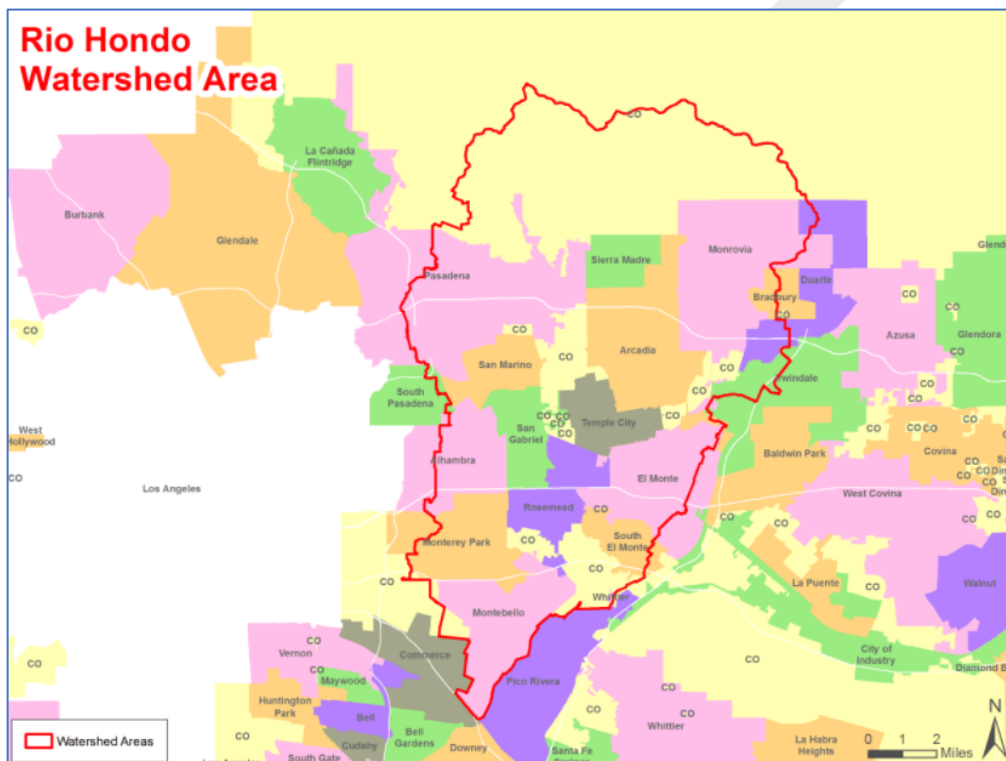
The WHAM Coalition organized by NGO leaders is now the [Infrastructure Justice for LA Coalition](#), which seeks to "advance policies that will facilitate the development of projects that provide multiple benefits and apply taxpayer funds in the most efficient way possible and prioritize delivering benefits to frontline communities." The Coalition is comprised of representatives from environmental, social justice, transportation, housing, and other constituencies working together to promote integrated multi-benefit projects. The Team will follow the work of the Infrastructure Justice for LA Coalition. Several of its members are active in the Safe, Clean Water Program and the nexus of the two programs will likely come into focus in the future.

² *Mobilizing the Transformative Power of WHAM: Overcoming Obstacles to Integrated Infrastructure Investments in Los Angeles County*. Christensen, Jon (UCLA) and Pritchard, Michele (Liberty Hill Foundation). Summer 2021.

2. Watershed Area Description

Physical Characteristics

This section is intended to provide an overview of the physical characteristics of the Watershed Area.



The Rio Hondo Watershed Area encompasses 132.25 square miles of Los Angeles County, with a local relief of approximately 5,500 feet from its high point of approximately 5,700 feet in elevation in the Angeles National Forest just south of Mount Wilson near the north central edge of the area down to an elevation of approximately 150 feet at the southern tip of the area just north of I-5 in Montebello.

The northern tier of cities, including Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Arcadia, Monrovia, Bradbury, and Duarte are either entirely or partly in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains. From the toe of the foothills, the Valley floor gently slopes south/southeasterly toward the Merced Hills, the Montebello Hills, and the Rio Hondo. This portion of the Watershed Area includes the valley floor portions of Pasadena, Arcadia, Monrovia, and Duarte, plus San Marino, San Gabriel, Temple City, and Rosemead, as well as portions of Irwindale, El Monte, South El Monte, Monterey Park, Alhambra and South Pasadena, and several unincorporated communities. The southern hills include portions of the unincorporated County, Montebello, and Monterey Park. South of the hills

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is another gentle gradient plain that includes portions of Montebello, Monterey Park, and unincorporated community of East Los Angeles within the Watershed Area.

Many parks and golf courses are scattered across the Watershed Area. A list of these facilities is included in the SOEP as **Appendix B**. The parks are areas that will continue to be assessed for the potential to be improved and for potential future opportunities for the development of multi-benefit projects. A standard engagement question the Watershed Coordinator Team employs during outreach and engagement events is, “What is your favorite park and why?” Some community members have strong feelings of connection with the parks in their neighborhoods, and this has proved to be one of the lines of discussion that most consistently garners responses from community members visiting the Team’s tabling events.

The “Emerald Necklace – Forest to the Ocean Vision Plan” proposed by Amigos de los Rios and the Conservation Fund in 2005 also contributes to the landscape of the Rio Hondo Watershed Area. The Emerald Necklace Vision started with a case study that involved the Cities of El Monte, South El Monte, Baldwin Park, and Irwindale. According to the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) website, “The Emerald Necklace is a 17-mile-long network of existing and future parks, greenways, and trails located along the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel River between Peck Road Water Conservation Park to the north and Whittier Narrows Recreation Area to the south.” The Vision builds on the 1930 Olmsted-Bartholomew Plan for Los Angeles and is intended to make Southern California a better place to live, work, and play.



Cascade Park, Courtesy of City of Monterey Park

Groundwater is critical to the Rio Hondo Watershed Area. Most of the Watershed Area is underlain by the Main San Gabriel Basin, which is subject to the jurisdiction of the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster – the agency charged with administering adjudicated water rights and managing groundwater resources within its portion of the Watershed Area. The surface area of the Main San

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Gabriel basin is approximately 167 square miles. A separate basin, the Raymond Basin, underlies the northwesterly portion of the San Gabriel Valley. The Raymond Basin is bounded on the north by the San Gabriel Mountains, on the west by the San Rafael Hills, and separated from the Main San Gabriel Basin on the Southeast by the Raymond fault. The surface area of the Raymond Basin is about 41 square miles. The description from an article entitled, “The History of the Raymond Basin Adjudication” states, “The Raymond Basin is like a massive bowl of sand and gravel that is filled up by the flows of the San Gabriel Mountains and by rainfall from throughout the watershed that seeps slowly into the ground. The rich alluvial soils in the foothills are like a sponge soaking up rainfall and percolating it into the aquifer.” (Brick, 2012.) The basin lies under much of the City of Pasadena and the unincorporated area of Altadena, as well as portions of Arcadia and Sierra Madre. The area overlying the Basin is largely urbanized. As a result of the first of such groundwater rights legal actions, the Raymond Basin was initially adjudicated in 1944. The 1974 modification of the adjudication allows parties to the adjudication credit for spreading of canyon diversions in spreading grounds in the vicinity of the Arroyo Seco, Eaton Wash, and Santa Anita Creek Canyon. A 1984 modification of the adjudication established the Raymond Basin Management Board as the Watermaster for the Raymond Basin.

The southern portion of the Watershed Area is underlain by the northern portion of the large Central Basin, which underlies approximately 227 square miles, including most of Montebello. It is covered by a Water Master Service Area, which includes an administrative body (the Water Replenishment District of Southern California) and the Central Basin Water Basin Water Rights Panel, the decision-making body composed of representatives of municipal and private water purveyors.

Water is largely provided by capture and infiltration of rainwater over the groundwater basins, and discharges from the San Gabriel Mountains. The mountain discharges enter a series of washes after passing through debris basins to remove debris and sediment. These washes include the Rubio Wash, the Eaton Wash, the Arcadia Wash, the Santa Anita Wash, and the Sawpit Wash, all of which transport surface flows to the Rio Hondo. The Rio Hondo flows into the Los Angeles River which ultimately discharges through Long Beach to the Pacific Ocean. Other waterbodies/hydrologic features include Legg Lake (at Whittier Narrows), Peck Road Water Conservation Park, the and the Alhambra Wash, which originates in San Marino rather than in the San Gabriel Mountains or foothills.

The Rio Hondo Watershed Area is also served by the San Gabriel Valley Water Authority, which coordinates and oversees the cleanup of polluted groundwater. There are 32 active groundwater treatment plants within the San Gabriel Basin, including EPA Superfund sites. A few EPA Superfund Site areas are within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area. To manage the areas and the cleanup more efficiently, EPA divided the four San Gabriel Valley Superfund sites into sections called operable units, or OUs. The OUs that relate to the Watershed Area are referred to by EPA as [Area 1](#) and [Area 3](#). (See **Appendix C** for descriptions of OUs.)

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Special Landscape Feature

The Rio Hondo Watershed Area is bordered by, and contains a portion of, the San Gabriel Mountains to the north, with a high watershed area elevation of approximately 5,700 feet just south of Mt. Wilson. The [Angeles National Forest](#) is a significant protected upland area that is partly in the Watershed Area. This relationship with the mountains and Angeles National Forest is part of geographic diversity in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area that most of the members of the Watershed Area Steering Committee commented upon during the Watershed Coordinator's interviews with them prior to the writing of the original SOEP. The area is subject to the Wilderness Act of 1964, which was enacted to preserve wild, open space public lands.



Source: USDA Forest Service Website

Large campuses or managed parcels in Rio Hondo Watershed Area include:

- **California Institute of Technology (Pasadena)** (124 acres)
- **City of Hope National Medical Center** (116-acre Specific Plan approved in 2018)
- **East Los Angeles College** (82 acres)
- **El Monte Airport** (103 acres)
- **Methodist Hospital of Southern California** (122 acres)
- **Montebello Country Club** (120 acres)
- **Pasadena City College (Pasadena)** (53 acres)
- **Santa Anita Racetrack** (320 acres)



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Social Characteristics

The Rio Hondo Watershed Area is an urban watershed area with 17 cities in part or wholly within its boundaries, along with portions of unincorporated Los Angeles County. The city jurisdictions include Alhambra, Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte, El Monte, Irwindale, Montebello, Monterey Park, Monrovia, Pasadena, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South El Monte, South Pasadena, and Temple City. Several of these cities are additionally located in the Upper Los Angeles River or Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Areas.

The estimated population of the Rio Hondo Watershed Area (based on the 2010 census) was 744,634, with 259,860 residents living in areas considered disadvantaged communities (35%). According to Safe, Clean Water Program 2020 Census Block Data the population for the Rio Hondo Watershed Area is now estimated to be 743,666, with 245,047 resident living in disadvantaged communities (32.95%). The decrease in population will be reflected with a decrease in SCWP revenues to the area. (Total population estimates for the cities within the Watershed Area are shown in the Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Incorporated Places in California, April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022 from the U.S. Census Bureau. See **Appendix D.**)

The unincorporated Los Angeles County Census Designated Places (CDPs) within the Watershed Area include Altadena, East Pasadena, East San Gabriel, Mayflower Village, North El Monte, South Monrovia Island, South San Gabriel, San Pasqual, and portions of East Los Angeles. Additional communities in the unincorporated County areas of the watershed include Kinneloa Mesa, Northeast San Gabriel, and San Pasqual. (See Figure 1.)



(Map courtesy of Los Angeles Almanac at laalmanac.com.)

FIGURE 1 – Census-designed places (unincorporated) shown in white.
(Watershed Area does not include unincorporated areas adjacent to or east of I-605)

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The cities of Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte, Monrovia, and Sierra Madre have been working together with the County of Los Angeles and the Flood Control District as members of the Rio Hondo/San Gabriel River Water Quality Group. They developed an Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP) pursuant to the Los Angeles Regional Water Board's NPDES permit requirements. Since the last SOEP revision these cities have formed a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) – [the Rio Hondo San Gabriel Rivers Joint Powers Authority](#) - which has begun meeting on a regular basis to facilitate ongoing collaborative efforts. The JPA recently approved a budget and hired a consulting team to manage its work.

Ten Cities in the Watershed Area, including Alhambra, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, South El Monte, South Pasadena, and Temple City are working together as members of the large Upper Los Angeles River EWMP Group.

The organization of these two EWMP groups predated the designation of Watershed Areas in Measure W. The result was that most of the cities in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area have partial allegiance to a watershed management group that is strongly influenced by cities in other WASCs.

The original Rio Hondo/San Gabriel EWMP was modified by the Revised Enhanced Watershed Program ("rEWMP") for the Rio Hondo/San Gabriel River Water Quality Group. It states in its Guiding Principles section that "the process was driven by the philosophy that each decision and outcome must be meaningful, measurable, and achievable" and that those metrics provide value in determining final outcomes. The Watershed Coordination team appreciates this approach and thinks it could be valuable in communicating SCWP Goals to area stakeholders.

As noted by most of the Rio Hondo WASC members interviewed, the Rio Hondo Watershed Area has a highly diverse social and economic structure. The wealthier neighborhoods are primarily, but not entirely, in the north, and the poorer neighborhoods are primarily in the south. Four major disadvantaged community areas were defined in the Watershed Area and mapped by the Council for Watershed Health in 2016. In addition, the Council mapped several small areas that meet the state definition of disadvantaged community scattered across the northern portion of the developed part of the Watershed Area.

The demographics of the area are also quite diverse. Of the 17 cities represented in whole or in part in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area, 10 have a primary spoken language other than English; interestingly, that number remains consistent despite two changes in primary language that are reflected in this revised SOEP. The primary language spoken in the City of Arcadia has changed from Chinese³ (now 36%) to English (41%) and the primary language spoken in the City of San

³ Note: The term "Chinese" is used by the U.S. Census and its related products. Mandarin and Cantonese share the same written language, although the spoken languages are different. Data to distinguish between Mandarin- and Cantonese-speaking communities in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area are not currently available.

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Marino has changed from English (43.2%) to Chinese (43.7%). According to data collected via U.S. Census and Neighborhood Scout, Chinese is the dominant language in the contiguous central and western cities of Alhambra, Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Gabriel, and Temple City, and now San Marino. Spanish is the dominant spoken language in the eastern cities of El Monte, Irwindale, South El Monte, and the southern city of Montebello. English is the dominant language in the cities of Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte, Monrovia, Pasadena, Sierra Madre, and South Pasadena. Diversity is one of the strengths of the area. However, meeting the needs of the diverse communities within the Watershed Area in terms of engagement and outreach is one of the challenges that faces the Watershed Coordinator Team. The Team has made connections with community-based organizations that serve some of the Chinese-speaking and Spanish-speaking communities within the area and is able to reach out to these CBOs for guidance, as appropriate. The Coordinators continue to work to provide resources for as many community stakeholders as possible. Developing these relationships will be an ongoing process.

The principal Watershed Coordinator was an invited speaker last year at an educational event for WELL, Water Education for Latino Leaders. WELL's membership is multi-racial/ethnic – the organization does not require participants to be Latino and states, "If you represent a Latino community, you can be a Latino leader". The team proposes to reach out to WELL this year to establish closer working relationships with Latino leaders within the Watershed Area.

WELL educates and trains local Latino elected officials about California water policy to promote timely and equitable actions that serve to develop a robust economy, healthy communities, and a resilient environment for all Californians ([WELL Mission Statement](#)).

(Please see **Appendix E** for Languages Spoken in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area.)

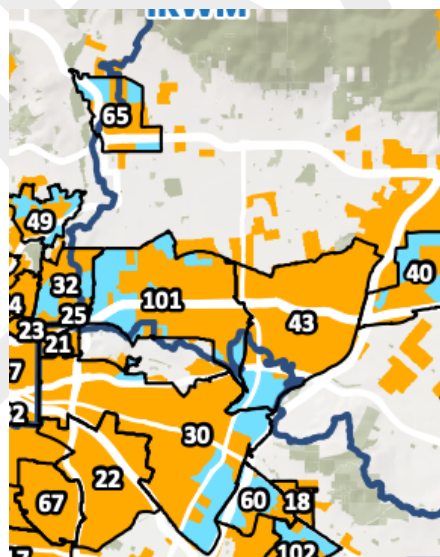


Figure 2. Disadvantaged Community Areas within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area
Portion of Disadvantaged Communities map (designed for the Council for Watershed Health)

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The Watershed Coordinator team has included in the SOEP's Interested Party Mapping section the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership, which has worked to connect potential investors in Asia with American opportunities throughout the downturn in Chinese investments. The Partnership has also worked hard to bridge the gap between the Chinese-speaking community and the other members of the Partnership. The Partnership's Board is large, multi-racial/ethnic, and includes representatives from cities, agencies, and businesses across the San Gabriel Valley. The Team looks forward to exploring potential connection with the Partnership in the future.



3. Organizing for Impact

The development and maintenance of a robust list of groups and individuals to help focus outreach and engagement activities is critical to building a successful Outreach and Engagement Program. The Watershed Coordinator Team started developing its initial interested party list through one-on-one interviews with each of the fifteen (15) members of the Rio Hondo WASC at the time of the Watershed Coordinator onboarding in June 2021 to take advantage of their knowledge of local community groups and environmental stewardship organizations. The Watershed Coordinator team later interviewed WASC members who joined the WASC after summer 2021 and solicited input from them regarding interested parties. Two of the sixteen questions asked of each WASC member dealt directly with building inclusion, building meaningful engagement, and identifying overlooked interested parties. Additional potential interested parties were initially identified through research. The list is now regularly updated based on contacts made, parties met, and suggestions by other Watershed Coordinators in the SCWP.

One of the first things the Team intends to do during this third coordination year is to interview newer WASC members with whom the Team has not yet met to solicit their input regarding their impressions and understandings regarding the Rio Hondo Watershed Area, including their recommendations for individuals and/or organizations to add to the list of interested parties.

Interested Party Mapping

The interested party list is a “living document” that is updated regularly. It is meant to track contacts and relationships the Team has made and to guide future outreach as individuals and organizations become known to the Team. The list of interested parties includes Community-Based Organizations, Environmental Stewardship Organizations, Tribal Organizations, City

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Councilmembers, City and County Government Departments, Councils of Governments, State and Federal Agencies, Water Purveyors, Educational Institutions, School Districts, and individuals who have been identified as active within the area. The team is working to keep the list of municipal representatives current and reflective of elections held during the last program year. The interested party list will continue to expand as initial contacts lead to other potential interested parties. With this 2023 update, the Watershed Coordinator team has started to add names of community members who have expressed particular interest in the Safe, Clean Water Program and have given us permission to stay in contact.

For this 2023 SOEP update, the Team added workforce development as a category of interested parties. The Team recently hosted representatives of an existing workforce development program as speakers during a monthly meeting of the SCWP Watershed Coordinators. In addition, representatives from the County's upcoming workforce development program briefly presented an update on that program. The Watershed Coordinator cohort will be exploring how to connect community stakeholders with workforce development resources as the Program evolves.

As of this 2023 revision, the SOEP interested party list of community-based organizations and other NGOs remains substantially consistent with the original list. However, we continue to update and build the list during our outreach efforts as we make connections with community members in the Rio Hondo Water Area. The Team has continued to connect with members of CBOs that work actively in the area. A primary outreach and engagement goal for this program year is to find opportunities to work with our CBO contacts in ways that both move SCWP program goals forward and benefit the CBOs and the communities they serve.

The team also seeks to connect with tribal leaders/members in the Watershed Area. The Team will revisit training given to the SCWP Watershed Coordinators by TreePeople, its Tribal Engagement Coordinator, and members of the Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples. The Team recognizes that engagement with tribal communities should be meaningful – and not a box-checking exercise – and continues to grapple with ways to achieve that.

The Watershed Coordinator team has noted in past SOEPs its intention to build a list of private landowners of large lots – especially those located near storm drains – that could be suitable locations for future projects. This was not an area of focus during the 2022-23 Program Year. The team will keep the concept in mind in case opportunity arises in a private lot that would enhance the Watershed Area's suite of projects. The Team will consider this a potential future resource.

Please see **Appendix F** for the current list of potential Interested Parties.

Getting and Staying in Touch

The Coordinator Team seeks to inform contacts within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area about Safe, Clean Water Program activities as well as other activities/programs/grant opportunities that may

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be of interest to stakeholders. One of the important resources that has been developed is the [SCWP Watershed Coordinator Engagement Events](#) Calendar, which was developed and is being maintained by the Council for Watershed Health through its Redesign LA Initiative. Coordinators are tasked with updating the calendar with outreach and engagement meetings as well as WASC meetings at which public comments are welcome.

Another important method of staying in touch is through email. The Team plans to update its emailing list to broadly deliver more regular email updates, potentially in the form of a newsletter. In addition, the Team plans to monitor and update its Instagram page to better communicate with the segment of the watershed area that uses social media to connect. The Team also plans to propose to Cities within the Watershed Area that they add SCWP information to their City websites as another way to reach community members.

The Stantec Regional Coordination team recently updated its list of Watershed Coordinator contacts, which will be publicly available. The current best way to contact the Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator team is through emailing Team member [Julie Millett](#).

4. Lessons Learned

During the Watershed Coordinator Team's first two contract years the Team gained insight into which of the program elements are more difficult to implement. One Program area in which the Team identified a need for improvement is in the capacity for productive working relationships between cities and community-based organizations. Cities that submit projects to the Safe, Clean Water Program are required to develop meaningful outreach and engagement programs. There may already be existing community-based organizations well-positioned to reach the community members the cities need to reach. Municipalities want and need neighborhood "buy-in" and support for projects, and CBOs need municipalities to support community-driven projects. Projects cannot achieve the required points without community outreach and demonstrated support. Strong reciprocal relationships benefit the entire program.

Implementation of the Safe, Clean Water Program has effectively ushered in a new era of municipalities and CBOs working together. Cities' engagement efforts could benefit greatly from retaining the services of CBOs, but Cities may not yet be equipped to hire CBOs in consultant capacities. The idea that payment for CBO services is appropriate and/or expected is a newer way of thinking for some, and this is significant. Municipalities establish their annual budgets in advance and have them approved by their City Councils. City staff members may have little leeway to make expenditures that do not have prior approval.

The Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator Team proposes to speak to Watershed Area City staff members and/or Councils to emphasize the benefits to be gained by developing processes to hire



CBOs. If Cities formally prepare in advance to work with CBOs, it could set up the framework for more constructive collaboration moving forward.

5. Strategies

This section builds on the previous sections to suggest a set of strategies to address five focus areas specified in the SOEP template provided to Watershed Coordinators, plus a new planning focus area. The first five areas are consistent with the initial SOEP and its 2022 revision. The 6th area is being added in the 2023 update in the spirit of adaptive management:

1. Engage stakeholders, municipalities, community groups
2. Promote Technical Resource Projects and assist Technical Assistance Teams
3. Ensure diverse perspectives are shared with the District and WASCs
4. Identify and promote the involvement of members of disadvantaged and underrepresented communities
5. Identify educational programming about watershed management, ecological, and community involvement
6. Implement an opportunities planning process to identify potential projects at various scales throughout the Watershed Area

The Watershed Coordinator Team will focus on the strategies listed above to implement the third year of the Watershed Coordinator program. These strategies were principally based on consideration of the fourteen (14) goals of the SCW Program (goals A-N, see p. 2), the eleven (11) duties and responsibilities of the Watershed Coordinator specified in Chapter 18 of the Flood Control District Code (see p. 3), and the nine consolidated tasks in our contract with the District. The context of the Coordinator role is to provide support and advice to the WASC as a non-voting member of the Steering Committee, while developing a meaningful and implementable outreach and engagement program. Based on our experiences during the first two years of the Watershed Coordinator role, this limited number of strategies is appropriate and continues to be representative of the concept of the Watershed Coordinator position.

Strategies within the Context of the SCWP

Before going into a detailed discussion on the specific strategies, it is necessary to put this section in the context of the SCWP, especially the programmatic structure and the likely availability of money. The Program receives approximately \$280 million per year, which varies from year-to-year

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based on the number of qualified exclusions requested and approved. If impervious areas are reduced in the Program area the taxable square footage will be reduced and the incoming funding stream adjusted accordingly.

Table 1 shows the approximate amount of funding estimated to be available for investment in the Regional Program (50% of total revenues received) based on last year's tax return estimates. Updated estimates are expected to become available in August of 2023. The adoption ordinance (Chapter 16 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code) specifies that at least 85% of the available Regional Program funds should be spent on Infrastructure Projects, up to 10% can be spent on Technical Assistance Projects (including the Watershed Coordinator), and up to 5% can be spent on scientific studies.

Table 1: Regional Estimates

Safe, Clean Water Program 2022-2023 Regional Tax Return Estimates

Central Santa Monica Bay	\$17.74M
Lower Los Angeles River	\$12.79M
Lower San Gabriel River	\$16.73M
North Santa Monica Bay	\$1.87M
Rio Hondo	\$11.71M
Santa Clara River	\$5.88M
South Santa Monica Bay	\$17.35M
Upper Los Angeles River	\$38.88M
Upper San Gabriel River	\$19.00M
REGIONAL TOTAL:	\$141.94M

Table 2: Local Return Estimates

Safe, Clean Water Program – Rio Hondo Watershed Area Local Tax Return Estimates ¹			
Municipality	Annual Local Return	5-Year Local Return	Fully or Partly in WA
Alhambra	\$0.88M	\$4,400,000	Partly (w/ULAR)
Arcadia	\$1.03M	\$5,150,000	Fully
Bradbury	\$0.05M	\$250,000	Partly (w/USGR)
Duarte	\$0.28M	\$1,400,000	Partly (w/USGR)
El Monte	\$1.11M	\$5,550,000	Partly (w/USGR)
Irwindale	\$0.42M	\$2,100,000	Partly (w/USGR)
Monrovia	\$0.53M	\$2,650,000	Partly (w/USGR)
Montebello	\$0.91M	\$4,550,000	Fully
Monterey Park	\$0.75M	\$3,750,000	Partly (w/ULAR)
Pasadena	\$1.63M	\$8,150,000	Partly (w/ULAR)
Rosemead	\$0.57M	\$2,850,000	Fully

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San Gabriel	\$0.45M	\$2,250,000	Fully
San Marino	\$0.25M	\$1,250,000	Fully
Sierra Madre	\$0.15M	\$750,000	Fully
South El Monte	\$0.45M	\$2,250,000	Partly (w/USGR)
South Pasadena	\$0.26M	\$1,300,000	Partly (w/ULAR)
Temple City	\$0.45M	\$2,250,000	Fully
Uninc. County	(fraction of \$11.39M)		Partly

¹ Based on **2022-23 Local Tax Return Estimates**. Updated tax return estimates are expected to be available in August 2023.

During contract year one, the Watershed Coordinator Team was asked to report to the WASC on the status of proposed and previously approved project applications. The Team reviewed proposed and approved Infrastructure Projects, Technical Resource Projects, and Scientific Studies in relation to each other. During that review, some potential duplications/conflicts were discovered. Throughout the second contract year the important work of evaluating projects in the various washes of the Rio Hondo Watershed in relation to each other continued. This work becomes increasingly important with the addition of new planned and potential projects into the system. The Team will continue to update and review this information to assist Rio Hondo WASC members with their evaluation of current and future proposed projects.

The team's approach to reviewing projects (completed, approved, and proposed) will continue to consider existing regulatory standards, proposed amendments to those standards, and the unique characteristics of the Rio Hondo Watershed Area.

The Watershed Coordinator Team proposes to address the six (6) identified strategies for outreach and engagement as follows:

Strategy 1. Engage stakeholders, municipalities, community groups.

- Continue to meet with municipal staff members to gain a better understanding of individuals and groups in or serving their jurisdictions that could help educate residents about the Safe, Clean Water Program and identify potential projects. The Watershed Team will again work with San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) staff to plan additional joint educational events.
- Work to deepen existing relationships and develop additional relationships with Watershed Area CBOs and other NGOs, especially those working in communities in which the dominant languages are Chinese and Spanish. The Watershed Coordinator Team seeks to facilitate collaborative outreach and engagement efforts throughout the Rio Hondo Watershed Area to educate community members and organizations about

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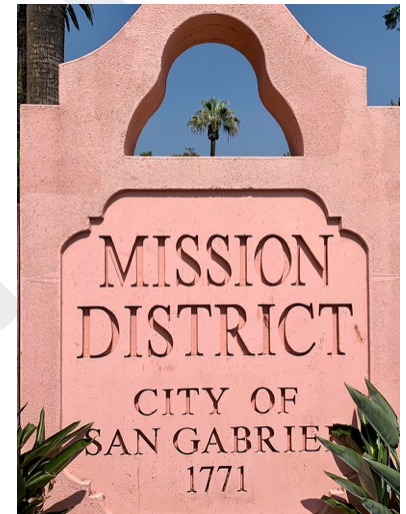


the SCWP and to find and support potential infrastructure and technical resource projects.

- c. Work with Watershed Area Cities to help them establish formal processes to work with CBOs in an outreach and engagement consulting capacity, as appropriate.
- d. Consider launching a regular “Coffee with Your Coordinator” or similar casual gathering to which CBOs, municipal staff, and community members would be invited. The intent would be to help build capacity of community members/CBOs to participate more effectively in the program and propose community-based multi-benefit projects that would benefit the Watershed Area.

Strategy 2. Promote Technical Resource Projects and assist Technical Assistance Teams

- a. Solicit input from individuals and groups identified by City staff and City Councilmember offices and the CBOs and NGOs with which relationships have been established.
- b. Focus on neighborhoods in the major West San Gabriel Valley/10 Freeway disadvantaged community (dominant language – Chinese) and the Montebello portion of the East LA/Montebello/Pico Rivera Disadvantaged Community and unincorporated enclosures scattered throughout the Watershed Area (dominant language – Spanish)



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

- a. Monitor and interpret comments made during Scoring Committee and Regional Oversight Committee meetings, and report on these comments during Watershed Coordinator updates to the WASC.
- b. Communicate regularly with municipal representatives, CBOs and other NGOs, and non-municipal project proponents and include summaries of their perspectives in Watershed Coordinator updates to the WASC.

Strategy 4. Identify and ensure the involvement of members of disadvantaged communities and under-represented communities.

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- a. Continue research on the identified disadvantaged communities in the Watershed Area, focusing on the East LA/Montebello/Pico Rivera, Greater El Monte, and West San Gabriel Valley/10 Freeway disadvantaged communities, since they are the largest disadvantaged communities in the Watershed Area and are likely to include overlooked neighborhoods.
- b. Review the work done by the WaterTalks program to help guide efforts to ensure involvement of disadvantaged communities and underrepresented areas in Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Planning efforts.
- c. Serve as a liaison to assist in connecting CBOs with municipal staff to facilitate community-based organizations being able to work in an outreach and engagement consulting capacity for municipal project proponents, as appropriate.



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

- a. Identify and work with managers of the Flood Control District educational programs to be funded with not less than 20% of District Program funds using a rolling five (5) year period, as they are developed. These programs will involve public education programs, local workforce training, and school education and curriculum programs to partner with the District on watershed planning, ecological, and community involvement education program.
- b. Use developed relationships with selected CBOs and other NGOs operating in the Watershed Area to facilitate collaborative educational efforts.
- c. Work with other watershed coordinators through monthly watershed coordinator meetings and regular meetings with coordinators in the adjacent Upper and Lower Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River Watershed Areas on joint development of educational programs.

Strategy 6. Implement an Opportunities Planning process to identify potential projects at various scales throughout the Watershed Area.

- a. Consult with member municipalities and the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments to identify potential regional projects in the six washes and two reaches of the Rio Hondo within the Watershed Area.
- b. Consult with municipalities and NGOs to identify potential municipal projects throughout the Watershed Area.
- c. Consult with community-based organizations to identify potential small-scale community-based projects throughout the Watershed Area.
- d. Submit a draft Opportunities Summary to the WASC in December 2023.

While implementing these strategies the Watershed Coordinator Team will make use of the series of questions suggested by the Stantec Regional Coordination team to help develop a suite of appropriate strategies. **(See Appendix G.)** The Watershed Coordinator Team will also regularly review the interview answers provided by WASC members.



6. Identify Collaborative Efforts

The Watershed Coordinator Team will continue to work collaboratively with other Watershed Coordinators in the four adjacent Watershed Areas whenever possible. The Team has connected with the adjacent Lower LAR, Lower SGR, Upper LAR, and Upper SGR Watershed Areas and continues to look for opportunities to work together.

RWA has planned and hosted three of the regular monthly meetings of Watershed Coordinators (July 2021, July 2022, and July 2023), participated in the other monthly meetings, participated in collaborative San Gabriel Valley coordinators activities, and attended events hosted by fellow Watershed Coordinators and others across the Program area. As SCWP Program implementation enters its fifth year, and the Watershed Coordination program enters its third year, it has proven beneficial to develop as a larger team of Coordinators – with different strengths and areas of expertise – and be visible to the LA County water community.

The Watershed Coordinator Team is committed to enhancing its engagement with and outreach to with community members across the Rio Hondo Watershed Area. The Team will continue to look for opportunities to provide educational materials and to help prepare interested community members and stakeholders who might not have project experience to propose projects to the Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) for consideration. Supporting connections among the different stakeholder groups in the area is critical to being able to secure the consideration of diverse perspectives and connect interested parties to needed technical assistance.

Other areas of potential collaboration involve regional and Countywide programs. At the time of writing, the draft County Water Plan has been released for public comments and is scheduled for final Plan release and implementation as part of the Countywide Sustainability Plan in winter of 2024. In addition, there is an active school greening effort across the area.

The Watershed Coordinator Team has participated in meetings of the Los Angeles Living Schoolyards Coalition and in tours of “greened” school facilities. Although the Coalition’s efforts are currently focused on schools within LAUSD, and the Rio Hondo Watershed Area does not have LAUSD schools within its boundaries, its actions will be informative and could assist with future work with school projects. There is a need for school greening within our Watershed Area. One school project led by Amigos de los Rios in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area, the Plymouth Elementary School in the Monrovia School District, is nearing completion. A Feasibility Study for

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the South El Monte High School that was developed under a FY 21-22 TRP was submitted for Year 5 IP funding consideration. The Watershed Coordinator Team will continue to monitor these school projects and programs and communicate with key staff, as appropriate.

The Team works to stay informed about efforts throughout the SCWP area to address water and other environmental and community issues and will participate in relevant events.



View from City of Hope, Duarte



7. Vision for Success for the Rio Hondo Outreach and Engagement Program

Long-Term Vision for Success: The Rio Hondo Outreach and Engagement Program will help the Rio Hondo WASC meet the Safe, Clean Water Program goals in a fair and inclusive manner.

Short-Term Vision for Success: During the third Coordination program year, the Watershed Coordinator Team will work to make significant progress implementing each of the strategies in the six strategic focus areas addressed in Section 5 of this SOEP.

Evaluation Criteria for Short-Term Implementation of Strategies in SOEP Section 5

<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Evaluation Criteria</u>
1.a.	At least six (6) check-ins with municipal staff contacts.
1.b.	At least six (6) check-ins with CBO and NGO representatives with which relationships have been established.
2.a.	Identification and/or development of at least two project concepts.
2.b.	Assistance provided to Technical Assistance Teams with TRPs
3.a.	Reporting of Scoring Committee and Regional Oversight Committee discussion of each proposed project and report to WASC.
3.b.	Presentation of solicited community input to the WASC during evaluation of each submitted project.
4.a.	Reports on involvement of members of disadvantaged communities in at least two Watershed Coordinator updates.
4.b.	Report on the implementation of the GLAC Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Program in at least one Watershed Coordinator update.
5.a.	Reports to WASC on Flood Control District educational programs as they become available.
5.b.	Reports on joint development and implementation of educational and/or outreach and engagement programs with other Watershed Coordinators in at least two Watershed Coordinator updates.

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- 6.a. The number and distribution of identified project opportunities in the Watershed Area.
- 6.b. WASC response to the Opportunities Summary.



Whittier Narrows Golf Course



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Rio Hondo Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) Members

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Melina Watts (Watershed Coordinator, North Santa Monica Bay WA)



Historic Mission San Gabriel Postcard



Visitor in Monrovia



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APPENDIX B-	Parks and Golf Courses in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area
APPENDIX C-	Operable Units (OUs) – Excerpt from EPA Superfund Site Fact Sheet
APPENDIX D-	Total Rio Hondo City Population Estimates 2020-2022
APPENDIX E-	Languages Spoken in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area
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Appendix A

7-25-2023 Board of Supervisors Motion

July 25, 2023

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH

Accelerating Implementation of the Safe Clean Water Program

The Safe, Clean Water Program funds stormwater infrastructure projects and scientific studies that improve water quality, increase our local water supply, and provide community benefits, like green spaces and parks, local jobs, and recreational opportunities. The program cultivates regional and community partnerships and prioritizes historically underserved communities. In November 2018, voters approved Measure W, a parcel tax to fund the Safe Clean Water Program (Program), which - beginning in Fall 2020 - has provided nearly \$280 million per year towards multi-benefit projects and programs. The Program was designed based on extensive and diverse stakeholder engagement and continues to leverage robust regional collaboration.

The Program is implemented and administered by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. It is designed with strong fiscal controls and both administrative and technical oversight to ensure impactful projects and financial accountability. Forty percent of the revenue is returned to the local jurisdiction (called the Municipal Program) while fifty percent is allocated to the Regional Program, where projects are submitted through a rigorous application process and then considered and recommended for funding by a series of governance committees. The next set of recommendations for the Regional Program is anticipated to come to this Board in August 2023

MOTION

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BARGER _____

HAHN _____

and will bring the total Regional Program project count to 126 projects across 50 municipalities, representing nearly \$1 billion in direct investments over five years, and leveraging nearly \$624 million in outside funding. In addition to many other benefits, these projects will increase annual average stormwater capture by nearly 60,000 acre-feet. If this water fully augmented our potable aquifers, it would be sufficient to serve another 480,000 people.

The Program is a core element in achieving water quality and supply goals essential to the County's long-term sustainability and resilience. The Program has already funded numerous projects that improve the quality of stormwater and support the region's efforts towards compliance with the Clean Water Act/MS4 Permits. These projects also support water resiliency by capturing stormwater that can offset potable uses and become local supply in our aquifers. Additionally, the Program provides community benefits like parks and green spaces, good local jobs, and recreation, while prioritizing these investments in disadvantaged communities.

Dry weather water quality along LA County's coastline has improved dramatically in recent years; however, there are still recurring problem spots. Water quality typically degrades significantly during wet weather, and a recent Heal the Bay report found that during and shortly after rain events, only 31% of LA County's beaches received good or excellent grades (based on bacteria levels). On the first day of Summer 2023 - a dry day - four iconic LA County beaches were under ocean water use warnings due to unsafe bacteria levels. Additionally, the Department of Public Health has indicated that toxic algae blooms exacerbated by runoff into the ocean have recently led to the poisoning of untold numbers of marine mammals from domoic acid.

Regarding water supply, last winter's historic rainfall - double our annual average of 15.3 inches of rain in Downtown LA - pulled California from the brink of our multi-year drought and restored many of our reservoirs and Sierra snowpack to healthier levels that will help meet our region's demand for potable water for at least the next two years. The unsung hero of the water system was the LA County Flood Control District, whose dams, canals, and levies successfully protected our county's residents and their property from damage from the torrents (and fared much better than most communities throughout California). In addition, a record 450,000 acre-feet of water were captured and infiltrated into local groundwater basins. And while the Program was never intended to add projects or features that prevent all stormflows from running to the ocean - especially during particularly intense events - there are many stakeholders eager to partner with the Program to identify and maximize stormwater capture and recharge to a greater level.

The LA County Flood Control District continues to adaptively manage the Program and has multiple efforts in progress to take the Program to the next level, including:

- Ongoing Project Portal improvements to facilitate customer experience while enhancing tools for both project/program planning and tracking.
- A Metrics and Monitoring Study (MMS) to develop further criteria to inform tracking, planning, reporting, and decision-making within specific areas of the program. This study is anticipated to be completed at the end of 2023.
- Pilot watershed master planning efforts based on preliminary MMS results.

- Rollout of an education and workforce development program.
- Ongoing Watershed Coordinator build-out to further enhance community engagement and education while supporting processes and pathways to participate in the Program and leverage funding.
- The Biennial Progress Report to capture all feedback, accomplishments, and lessons learned to date, and provide recommendations to inform next steps of adaptive management. This report is anticipated to be submitted to the Board at the end of 2023.

These efforts are envisioned to address many of the lingering challenges raised by government, non-profit, labor, business, and community partners, but will take time to complete and then incorporate into the Program as appropriate. A broader understanding of these timelines for all stakeholders, as well as an exploration of what else could be done in tandem with these efforts, is warranted. This is particularly true in two categories - maximizing processes and pathways into the Regional Program and comprehensive watershed planning by the LA County Flood Control District.

Enhanced entry into the Regional Program would ultimately reduce future water quality impacts to human and wildlife health by accelerating the delivery of water quality projects. Specifically, several Program partners identified the difficulty in preparing long and complex applications and the cost it involves (many jurisdictions hire a consultant just to complete an application). These burdens are especially true for small municipalities, agencies like school districts, and non-profits that are eligible for funding but have had limited participation in the

Regional Program thus far. Project applications need to be robust to align with Ordinance-defined transparency requirements and to provide sufficient information to ensure analysis and recommendations reflect good stewardship of public funds; however, many proposals, such as those focused on operations and maintenance, back-funding for already completed projects, and extremely common project interventions, might merit a recalibrated application approach.

Regarding comprehensive Flood Control District-led watershed planning, many of the Flood Control District's current efforts are already well on their way to yielding more robust analytics and strategy to identify the areas with the greatest need and opportunity related to water supply, water quality, and community investments. These goals must be balanced with essential flexibility in the Program for governance committee discretion and changing conditions and community needs. These efforts are progressing toward a single publicly accessible planning portal that would provide direction for implementation. This comprehensive planning tool would likely assist a more diverse set of applicants to identify projects that could achieve multiple benefits and best serve our communities. A vision document that identifies areas within each watershed with the greatest potential opportunities for improvements would ensure continuity and connectivity between interventions (currently, projects are scored on individual merit). This vision would lessen the burden on both applicants and committees as they consider which suites of projects could be most impactful.

While these issues will certainly be represented in the Department's upcoming Biennial

Progress Report, that process may not have time to fully explore potential solutions. The Program's limited staff are deeply involved in the preparation and implementation of existing program components and in launching program initiatives that are funded, but, in some cases, have not yet fully launched (e.g. surrounding workforce development and credit trading). It is important that the Board and the public have a full grasp of the efforts taking place and that these efforts - along with any supplemental or resulting activities - can advance as quickly as possible, which would require additional resources and assistance from expert technical, planning, financial, and community engagement consultants.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors [director of the Department of Public Works, acting as Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, with the assistance of the Chief Sustainability Officer, to report back in writing in 120 days, and in advance of the Program's Biennial Progress Report, on the following:

1. Efforts to accelerate the district's comprehensive watershed planning efforts to identify areas that provide the most promising opportunities for developing impactful water quality, water supply, and community enhancing multi-benefit projects. This exercise should also compile the projects already funded by the Program (as well as other large projects that are planned within the watershed and funded through other sources) to identify what portions of the watershed have been adequately covered (including a clear definition, baseline, and goals for what adequate coverage means). These pre-identified opportunity areas can serve as a guide for local partners to collaborate and develop projects with the

highest potential impact. This comprehensive watershed planning effort should also supplement and utilize all other in-progress efforts related to providing program-level tools for developers to consider regional needs and opportunities, aiding the governance committees to consider submissions, and supporting regional reporting of progress.

2. Plans to improve, streamline, and simplify the existing Regional Program application process, accounting for the complex but necessary requirements called for in the Program ordinance. Evaluation of alternatives should include benchmarking other multi-benefit infrastructure finance program best practices, and ultimately suggest recommendations including those that could:
 - i. Offer alternative application pathways based on the type of project or type of funding requested
 - ii. Be responsive to results of a survey that would be issued and compiled of all Regional Program project applicants to date
 - iii. Elaborate on the goals and timeline of the Program's recently approved Community Education and Engagement Grants Program
3. The resources and staffing needed to establish a Safe Clean Water Program planning group at the Flood Control District, dedicated to ongoing and iterative adaptive management and strategy. This would include oversight of all aspects related to comprehensive watershed planning beyond the pilot effort and would be informed by ongoing operations and administration of the Program from both implementation staff as

well as governance committees and stakeholders.

#



Appendix B

Parks and Golf Courses in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area

Parks and Golf Courses in the Rio Hondo Watershed

Park	Jurisdiction
Acuna Park	Montebello
Alhambra Municipal Golf Course	Alhambra
Altadena Golf Course	Altadena
Arcadia City Golf Course	Arcadia
Arcadia Regional Park and Santa Anita Golf Course	Arcadia
Ashiya Park	Montebello
Barnes Park	Monterey Park
Bonita Park	Arcadia
Cascades Park	Monterey Park
Central Park	Pasadena
Defenders Parkway	Pasadena
Duarte Sports Park	Duarte
Duarte Park	Duarte
Eaton-Blanche Park	Pasadena
Eaton Canyon Park	Unincorporated County
Eisenhower Memorial Park	Arcadia
Fletcher Park	El Monte
Jess Gonzalez Sports Park	Rosemead
Garvey Ranch Park	Monterey Park
Granada Park	Alhambra
Grant Park	Pasadena
Guess Park	Rosemead
Hamilton Park	Pasadena
Chet Holifield Park	Montebello
Lacy Park	San Marino
Lambert Park	El Monte
Lindarxa Park	Alhambra
Live Oak Park	Temple City
Vincent Lugo Park	San Gabriel
McKinley Park	Pasadena
Memorial Park	Pasadena
Memorial Park	Sierra Madre
Montebello City Park	Montebello
Montebello Country Club	Montebello
Monrovia Library Park	Monrovia
Monrovia Wilderness Preserve	Monrovia
Moore Park	Duarte
Newcastle Park	Arcadia

Northview Park	Duarte
Lucinda Garcia Park	Monrovia
Pioneer Park	El Monte
Grant Rea Park	Montebello
Recreation Park	Monrovia
Hugo Reid Park	Arcadia
Reggie Rodriguez Park	Montebello
Rosemead Park	Rosemead
San Gabriel Country Club	San Gabriel
Saybrook Park	East LA (South Montebello community)
Sequoia Park	Monterey Park
Sierra Vista Park	Monterey Park
Singer Park	Pasadena
Smith Park	San Gabriel
Story Park	Alhambra
Sally Tanner Park	Rosemead
Mary Van Dyke Park	El Monte
Washington Park	Pasadena
Whittier Narrows Golf Course	Rosemead
Whittier Narrows Recreation Area	South El Monte



Appendix C

Operable Units (OUs) – Excerpt from EPA Superfund Site Fact Sheet

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues to make significant progress in our decades-long effort to clean up groundwater contamination in the San Gabriel Valley (SGV). EPA, along with the State of California and local agencies, is protecting the groundwater by removing toxic chemicals from contaminated portions of the aquifer.* This fact sheet describes cleanup progress at four Superfund sites within the SGV. The sites are called San Gabriel Valley Area 1, Area 2, Area 3, and Area 4.

[illegible]

1

HISTORY AND CLEANUP PROGRESS

Below is a brief history of the sites through key steps of the Superfund cleanup process. *More details on the status of the cleanup at each of the OUs is provided on pages 4 - 9.*

Discovery and Assessment

In 1979, the state required water providers to increase testing of drinking water supplies. The testing found multiple areas of contamination in the San Gabriel Valley's water supply. In 1984, EPA added four areas of the most contaminated groundwater to the Superfund program. After the sites were added, EPA began a multi-year effort to understand how the water got contaminated and where the contamination went.

What We Found

EPA found many solvents commonly used for degreasing industrial equipment—such as trichloroethylene (TCE) and perchloroethylene (PCE)—in the soil and groundwater. EPA also found the chemicals perchlorate, 1,2,3-trichloropropane (1,2,3 -TCP); N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA); 1,4 dioxane; and hexavalent chromium. *See page 3 for more information on the contaminants and sources.*

Ongoing Work

EPA regularly evaluates how its cleanups at each of the Superfund sites are working. Every five years, EPA does a more in-depth review called a Five-Year Review to see if the cleanup plans are working as designed. EPA did reviews for SGV Areas 1-3 from 2016-2017, and will be doing a review for Area 4 in 2021.



Selecting Cleanup Plans

From 1993 – 2000, EPA developed interim (immediate actions taken to address groundwater contamination) cleanup plans for most of the sites' contaminated groundwater. Since then EPA has ordered, or reached legal agreements with, the companies responsible for the contamination to clean up the sites.

Cleanup

In 2001, EPA began building the groundwater extraction and treatment systems needed to do the cleanup. There are 14 groundwater treatment systems that operate as part of the SGV Superfund cleanup:

- five in the Baldwin Park OU;
- four in the El Monte OU;
- four in the South El Monte OU; and
- one in the Whittier Narrows OU.

Two systems are being built in the Puente Valley OU, and a third is in the design phase.

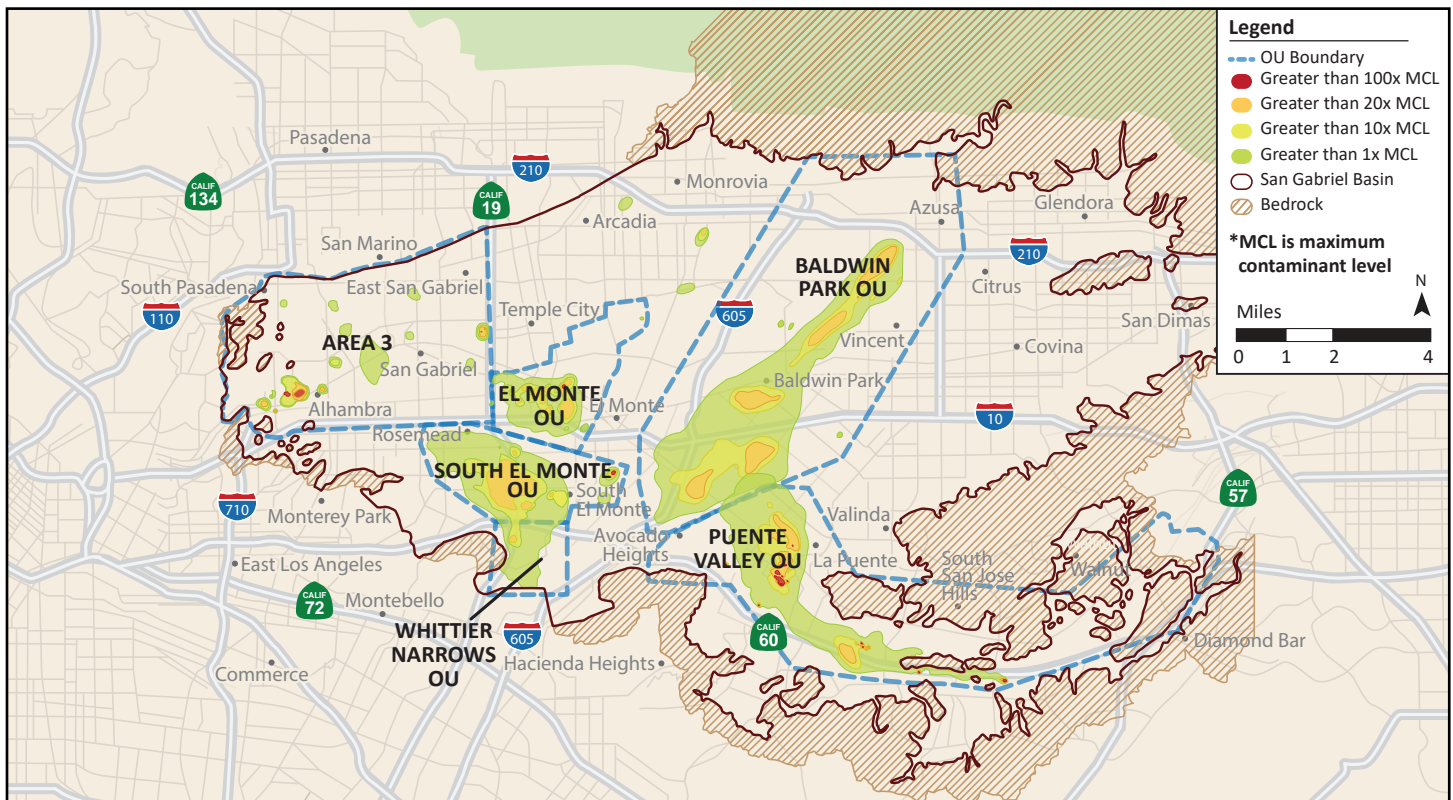
Community Involvement

EPA involves the community throughout the Superfund process. These activities inform the community of cleanup work and include them in the decision-making process. The EPA Community Involvement Plan guides these activities and is based on research and interviews from community members and other stakeholders. In November 2018, EPA updated its Community Involvement Plans for the SGV Superfund sites. To see the plan, please visit the websites on page 4-9.

Who Pays?

Hundreds of businesses and companies contaminated over 30 square miles of groundwater in the sites. These Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) may also include individuals, trusts or other entities. These PRPs have paid, or are paying, for most of the cleanup costs, while both local water agencies and PRPs are operating the water treatment systems. EPA and the State of California have also paid for some cleanup costs. EPA oversees cleanup in all of the OUs except Whittier Narrows OU, which the State cleans up and pays for. The following state and local agencies also play important roles in the cleanup process:

- Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB);
- California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC);
- Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster; and
- San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority.



The figure shows approximate locations and concentrations of groundwater contamination from data taken between 2012 and 2017.

Sources of Contamination

The groundwater contamination is the result of decades of poor chemical handling and disposal practices. Most of the activities that led to the contamination likely occurred between the 1940s and 1970s. This period was before EPA established the Superfund cleanup program and environmental laws covering hazardous waste.

What chemicals contaminated the groundwater?

Below is a list of the main chemicals found at one or more of the sites, and how they are used.

- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) which include chlorinated chemicals, such as TCE and PCE, that were commonly used to degrease machinery or for dry-cleaning.
- 1,4-Dioxane may be found in industrial solvents, paint strippers, greases, and waxes.
- 1,2,3-TCP may have been used as a sealant and soil fumigant.
- NDMA and Perchlorate have been associated with the manufacture and testing of rockets.
- Hexavalent chromium is used in chrome plating facilities.



For more information, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry has a series of summaries about contaminants called ToxFAQs that can be found at www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq



Appendix D

Total Populations Estimates for Rio Hondo Watershed Area Cities 2020-2022

**Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Incorporated Places in California: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022
(Edited to include only Cities in Rio Hondo Watershed)**

Geographic Area	April 1, 2020 Estimates Base	Population Estimate (as of July 1)		
		2020	2021	2022
Alhambra city, California	82,868	82,657	81,168	80,259
Arcadia city, California	56,664	56,466	55,334	54,857
Bradbury city, California	925	922	899	886
Duarte city, California	21,722	21,662	21,271	21,807
El Monte city, California	109,447	109,111	106,918	105,312
Irwindale city, California	1,467	1,462	1,438	1,413
Monrovia city, California	37,937	37,833	37,456	36,893
Montebello city, California	62,623	62,410	61,125	60,569
Monterey Park city, California	61,109	60,891	59,586	58,554
Pasadena city, California	138,719	138,304	135,932	134,211
Rosemead city, California	51,187	51,082	50,221	49,791
San Gabriel city, California	39,575	39,449	38,676	38,140
San Marino city, California	12,511	12,476	12,240	12,039
Sierra Madre city, California	11,275	11,238	11,005	10,809
South El Monte city, California	19,561	19,612	19,557	19,602
South Pasadena city, California	26,942	26,851	26,285	25,850
Temple City city, California	36,492	36,400	35,749	35,296

Note: The estimates are based on the 2020 Census and reflect changes to the April 1, 2020 population due to the Count Question Resolution program, geographic program revisions, and the application of disclosure avoidance to protect confidentiality. For population estimates methodology statements, see <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/technical-documentation/methodology.html>. All geographic boundaries for the 2022 population estimates series are as of January 1, 2022. For updates on Legal Boundary Change/Annexation Data, see <https://www.census.gov/geographies/reference-files/time-series/geo/bas/annex.html>. Additional information on these localities can be found in the Geographic Boundary Change Notes (see

Suggested Citation:

Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Incorporated Places in California: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022 (SUB-IP-EST2022-POP-06)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division

Release Date: May 2023



Appendix E

Languages Spoken in the Rio Hondo Watershed Area

Rio Hondo Watershed Area - Estimate of Languages Spoken by % (Data Reflect Total Populations of Cities Wholly or Partly within the Watershed Area) 2023 Update																			
Languages	Total Avg	Alhambra	Arcadia	Bradbury	Duarte	El Monte	Irwindale	Montebello	Monterey Park	Monrovia	Pasadena	Rosemead	San Gabriel	San Marino	Sierra Madre	South El Monte	South Pasadena	Temple City	Uninc County Communities*
English	40.0%	29.8%	41.0%	59.8%	42.8%	16.9%	37.4%	27.8%	26.5%	55.6%	54.4%	18.6%	28.6%	43.2%	79.5%	19.7%	64.30%	33.3%	42.4%
Spanish	27.9%	25.1%	7.4%	6.4%	38.5%	54.8%	62.0%	60.2%	18.2%	29.7%	27.9%	23.6%	15.0%	5.5%	5.3%	64.6%	11.8%	11.2%	29.2%
Chinese	21.0%	32.5%	36.0%	21.3%	5.8%	16.3%	*	4.7%	43.3%	5.9%	5.7%	37.3%	40.8%	43.7%	8.9%	9.4%	12.2%	41.9%	14.2%
Vietnamese	2.94%	4.3%	1.7%	1.0%	*	8.6%	*	0.5%	3.6%	1.1%	*	15.4%	7.9%	0.6%	*	4.5%	*	4.6%	2.3%
Tagalog	1.59%	1.8%	2.2%	1.1%	5.0%	1.1%	*	1.4%	1.7%	2.1%	1.8%	1.3%	1.5%	0.7%	*	*	1.7%	1.7%	1.5%
Japanese	1.10%	1.0%	1.2%	*	*	*	*	0.8%	4.0%	0.5%	0.7%	0.5%	1.0%	1.1%	1.2%	*	2.0%	1.5%	1.4%
Korean	0.93%	1.0%	1.8%	*	*	*	*	*	1.2%	0.6%	1.4%	0.6%	0.5%	1.6%	0.5%	1.1%	3.5%	1.6%	1.4%
Languages of India	0.66%	0.6%	1.9%	3.3%	0.6%	*	*	0.7%	*	*	1.5%	*	*	0.9%	*	*	0.7%	0.9%	0.9%
Other Asian Language	0.42%	0.6%	2.0%	*	*	*	*	0.6%	0.5%	*	0.5%	1.1%	1.1%	0.6%	*	*	*	0.5%	*
Arabic	0.37%	*	*	4.8%	*	*	*	*	0.5%	*	0.5%	*	*	0.5%	1.7%	*	*	*	0.4%
Pacific Island Language	0.34%	0.9%	1.0%	*	*	*	*	*	1.0%	*	*	*	0.8%	0.5%	*	0.5%	*	1.5%	*
Thai		*	1.0%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.5%	*	*	*	*	*	
German/Yiddish	0.15%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.5%	0.6%	*	*	0.7%	0.5%	*	0.5%	*	*
Armenian	0.13%	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.8%	*	*	0.5%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.0%
French	0.12%	*	*	1.0%	*	*	*	*	0.6%	*	*	*	*	*	0.8%	*	0.7%	*	0.1%
Polish	0.08%	*	*	0.9%	*	*	0.5%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Persian	0.04%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.7%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
African Languages	0.03%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.6%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
West Germanic Language	0.03%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.6%	*	*	*	*
Italian	0.03%	*	*	*	*	*	0.5%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

* Percentage less than 0.5% of population

** 2020 Census updated information not currently available for the portions of the Rio Hondo Watershed that are unincorporated LA County. This column reflects 2010 census data for the following Census Designated Places (CDPs) and other LA County unincorporated communities located wholly or partly within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area: Altadena, East Los Angeles, Kinneloa Mesa, Mayflower Village, North El Monte, San Pasqual, and South San Gabriel

Source: NeighborhoodScout.com



Appendix F

Interested Party Mapping

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APPENDIX E: INTERESTED PARTY MAPPING

Community-Based Organizations	
Name	
A3PCON – Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council	
API Forward Movement	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heng Lam Foong (Program Director) Je-Show Yang (Senior Policy Coordinator, APIFM's Sustainable SGV Program) 	
Active SGV	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Diaz 	
Communities for a Better Environment	
Day One	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christy Zamani James Cortes-Rivera 	
Groundwater Resources Assn of California	
Investing in Place	
LA Neighborhood Land Trust	
LAANE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lauren Ahkiam, Director, Water Justice LA Campaign (Met at Good Jobs for All) Brittany Rivas, Community Organizer, Water Justice LA Campaign (Met at Good Jobs for All) 	
Nature for All	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belén Bernal (Executive Director) Bryan Matsumoto (Program Manager) 	
Prevention Institute	
SGV Civic Alliance	
San Gabriel and Lower LA Rivers & Mountains Conservancy	
Social Justice Learning Institute (SJLI)	
Water Education for Latino Leaders	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paul Hernandez, Executive Director Sergio Jimenez, City Councilmember, Monrovia (AAPI-UnTapped Fellow 2023) Diana Mahmud, WELL Executive Board Member; Former Councilmember, City of South Pasadena 	

Environmental Stewardship Organizations	
Name	
Amigos de los Rios	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Claire Robinson 	

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Council for Watershed Health
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eileen Alduenda (Executive Director) Jason Casanova (Director, Planning & Information Design) Carlos Moran, Kristen Kreter (SCWP)
Friends of Baldwin Lake
Los Angeles WaterKeeper
Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
Our Water LA
Sierra Club San Gabriel Valley Taskforce
Think Earth Foundation
TreePeople
Trust for Public Land
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edna Robidas

Native American/Tribal Organizations

Name
American Indian Chamber of Commerce
American Indian Community Council
Gabrieleño-San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
Kizh Nation
Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous People

City and County Government

Organization/Individual
Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis – 1 st District
Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger – 5 th District
Alhambra – Adele Andrade-Stadler (District 5), Mayor
Alhambra – Katherine Lee (District 1), Councilmember
Alhambra – Ross J. Maza (District 2), Vice Mayor
Alhambra – Jeffrey Koji Maloney (District 3), Councilmember
Alhambra – Sasha Renée Pérez (District 4), Councilmember
Alhambra – Jessica Binnquist, City Manager
Alhambra – Ray Martin, Director of Public Works
Alhambra – Andrew Ho, Director of Community Development Department
Alhambra – Michael Macias, Director of Parks and Recreation

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Arcadia – Paul P. Cheng, Mayor (Term Expires: November 2024) – District 4
Arcadia – April Verlato, Mayor Pro Tem (District 1) – Term expires November 2024
Arcadia – Sharon Kwan, Councilmember (District 2) (Term Expires: November 2026)
Arcadia – Eileen Wang, Councilmember (District 3) (Term Expires: November 2026)
Arcadia – Michael Cao, Councilmember (District 5) – Term expires November 2024
Arcadia – Dominic Lazzaretto, City Manager
Arcadia – Tom Tait, Public Works Services Director
Bradbury -Bruce Lathrop (District 4), Mayor
Bradbury – Richard T. Hale, Jr. (District 1), Councilmember
Bradbury – D. Montgomery Lewis, (District 2), Councilmember
Bradbury – Richard G. Baraket (District 3), Mayor Pro Tem
Bradbury – Elizabeth Bruny (District 5), Councilmember
Bradbury – Kevin Kearney, City Manager
Bradbury – Jim Kasama, City Planner (Contractor)
Duarte – Jody Schulz (District 3), Mayor
Duarte – Margaret Finlay (District 1), Councilmember
Duarte – Vinh Truong (District 2), Councilmember
Duarte – Tera Martin Del Campo, Councilmember (District 4)
Duarte – Samuel Kang (District 5), Councilmember
Duarte – Cesar Garcia (District 6), Councilmember
Duarte – Toney Lewis (District 7), Councilmember
Duarte – Daniel Jordan, City Manager
Duarte – Stephanie Sandoval, Public Works Manager
Duarte – Craig Hensley, Community Development Director
Duarte – Cody Howing, Contracted City Engineer
Duarte – Manuel Enriquez, Parks and Recreation Director
El Monte - Jessica Ancona, Mayor
El Monte - Martin Herrera, Mayor Pro Tem
El Monte - Alma Puente, Councilmember
El Monte - Victoria Martinez Muela, Councilmember
El Monte – Richard Rojo, Councilmember
El Monte - Alma Martinez, City Manager
El Monte – Sal Mendez, Public Works and Utilities Director
El Monte – Betty Donovanik, Community & Economic Development Director
El Monte – Amber Servin, Interim Director, Parks, Recreation and Community Services
Irwindale – H. Manuel Ortiz, Mayor

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Irwindale – Albert F. Ambriz, Mayor Pro Tem
Irwindale – Larry G. Burrola, Councilmember
Irwindale – Manuel R. Garcia, Councilmember
Irwindale – Mark A. Breceda, Councilmember
Irwindale – Julian Miranda, City Manager
Irwindale – Arsanious Hanna, PE, CBO, Director of Engineering/Building Official
Irwindale – Marilyn Simpson, AICP, Community Development Director
Irwindale – Paula Faijo, Chair, Parks and Recreation Commission
Monrovia – Becky A. Shevlin, Mayor
Monrovia – Larry J. Spicer, Mayor Pro Tem
Monrovia – Gloria Crudginton, City Councilmember (re-elected 2022)
Monrovia – Dr. Tamala Kelly, Councilmember (4-year term started July 5, 2022)
Monrovia – Sergio Jimenez, Councilmember
Monrovia - Dylan Feik, City Manager
Monrovia – Kevin McCune, Dir. of Public Works (started May 23, 2022)
Monrovia - Alex Tachiki, Deputy Dir. of Public Works
Monrovia – Craig Jimenez, Community Development Director
Montebello – David Torres, Mayor
Montebello - Scarlet Peralta, Mayor Pro Tem
Montebello - Angie Jimenez, Council Member
Montebello - Salvador Melendez, Council Member
Montebello - Georgina Tamayo, Councilmember
Montebello - Rene Bobadilla, City Manager
Montebello - James Enriquez, P.E., Dir. of Public Works/City Eng.
Montebello – Joseph Palombi, Planning & Community Development Director
Montebello – David Sosnowski, Director of Recreation and Community Services
Monterey Park – Jose Sanchez, Mayor
Monterey Park – Thomas Wong, Mayor Pro Tem
Monterey Park – Yvonne Yiu, Council Member, District 2
Monterey Park – Henry Low, Councilmember, District 4
Monterey Park – Vinh T. Ngo, Councilmember, District 5
Monterey Park – Shawn Igoe, Director of Public Works
Monterey Park – Jessica Serrano, Interim Dir. Of Community Development
Pasadena - Victor M. Gordo, Mayor
Pasadena - District 1 - Councilmember Tyron Hampton
Pasadena - District 2 – Vice Mayor Felicia Williams
Pasadena - District 3 - Councilmember Justin Jones
Pasadena - District 4 - Councilmember Gene Masuda
Pasadena - District 5 - Councilmember Jess Rivas

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Pasadena - District 6 - Councilmember Steve Madison
Pasadena - District 7 - Councilmember Jason Lyon
Pasadena – Miguel Marquez, City Manager
Pasadena – Tony Olmos, Dir. of Public Works
Pasadena – Brent Maue, Assistant City Engineer
Pasadena – David Reyes, Assistant City Manager
Pasadena – Brenda Harvey-Williams, Director of Planning & Community Development
Rosemead – Sean Dang, Mayor (current term ends 2024)
Rosemead – Steven Ly, Mayor Pro Tem (Current term ends 2026)
Rosemead – Sandra Armenta, Council Member (Current term ends 2026)
Rosemead – Margaret Clark, Council Member (Current term ends 2026)
Rosemead – Polly Low, Council Member (Current term ends 2024)
Rosemead – Ben Kim, City Manager
Rosemead – Michael Chung, Director of Public Works
Rosemead – Stan Wong, Interim Director of Community Development
Rosemead – Tom Boecking, Director of Parks and Recreation
San Gabriel – John Harrington, Mayor (next election Nov 5, 2024)
San Gabriel - John Wu, Vice Mayor
San Gabriel – Eric Chan, Councilmember
San Gabriel – Tony Ding, Councilmember (next election Nov 5, 2024)
San Gabriel – Denise Menchaca, Councilmember
San Gabriel - Greg de Vinck, Director, Dept of Public Works
San Gabriel – Mark Lazzaretto, City Manager
San Gabriel – Samantha Tewasart, Planning Manager
San Gabriel – Rebecca Perez, Director, Community Services
San Marino - Steve Talt, Mayor
San Marino – Steven W. Huang, DDS, Vice Mayor
San Marino - Tony Chou, Council Member
San Marino – Calvin Lo, Council Member
San Marino – Gretchen Shepherd Romey, Council Member
San Marino - Mario Rueda, City Manager (appointed 2022)
San Marino – Amber Shah – Parks & Public Works Director/City Engineer
San Marino – Aldo Cervantes, Community Development Director
Sierra Madre – Edward Garcia, Mayor
Sierra Madre - Kelly Kriebs, Mayor Pro Tem
Sierra Madre – Gene Goss, Council Member
Sierra Madre - Kelly Kriebs, City Council Member
Sierra Madre - Kristine Low, City Council Member
Sierra Madre – Robert Parkhurst, City Council Member

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Sierra Madre – Jose Reynoso, City Manager
Sierra Madre – Laura Aguilar, Deputy City Manager
Sierra Madre - Chris Cimino, Public Works Director
Sierra Madre – Vincent Gonzalez, Director of Planning & Community Preservation
South El Monte – Gloria Olmos, Mayor (Term expires November 2024)
South El Monte – Richard Angel, Mayor Pro Tem (Term expires November 2024)
South El Monte – Manuel Acosta, Councilmember
South El Monte – Hector Delgado, Councilmember (Term expires November 2024)
South El Monte – Rudy Bojorquez, Councilmember
South El Monte – Rene Salas, City Manager
South El Monte – Ariana De La Cruz, Recreation Supervisor
South El Monte – Guillermo Arreola, Planning Manager
South Pasadena – Jon Primuth, Mayor (District 3)
South Pasadena – Evelyn G. Zneimer, Mayor Pro Tem (District 1)
South Pasadena – Jack Donovan, Councilmember (District 2)
South Pasadena – Michael A. Cacciotti, Councilmember (District 4)
South Pasadena – Janet Braun, Mayor (District 5)
South Pasadena – Arminé Chaparyan, City Manager (Since 2021)
South Pasadena – Ted Gerber, Public Works Director
South Pasadena – Anglica Frausto-Lupo, Community Development Director
South Pasadena – Sheila Pautsch, Community Services Director
Temple City – Cynthia Sternquist, Mayor
Temple City - William Man, Mayor Pro Tem
Temple City - Tom Chavez, Councilmember
Temple City – Fernando Vizcarra, Councilmember
Temple City – Vincent Yu, Councilmember
Temple City – Bryan Cook, City Manager
Temple City – Scott Reimers, Community Development Director
Temple City – Adam Matsumoto, Parks & Recreation Director
Los Angeles County Department of Parks & Recreation
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Los Angeles County Public Works

Councils of Governments

Entity

MAD Town Council (representing unincorporated areas of Monrovia, Arcadia, and Duarte)

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San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

Agencies – Local and Regional

Entity
Gateway Water Management Authority (GWMA)
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro)
Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster
San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority
San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control Community Affairs
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Southern California Assn of Governments (SCAG)
Watershed Conservation Authority

Agencies – State and Federal

Entity
California Conservation Corps
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Stormwater Program
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

Entity
San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
Upper San Gabriel Valley Water District

Water Retailers

Entity
Amarillo Mutual Water Company
Cal-Am Water Company (Duarte)
Cal-Am Water Company (San Marino)

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Cal Water Service Company
City of Alhambra
City of Arcadia
City of El Monte
City of Monrovia
City of Monterey Park
City of Pasadena
City of Sierra Madre
City South Pasadena
Del Rio Mutual Water Company
East Pasadena Water Company
Golden State Water Company
Montebello Land and Water Company
Rurban Homes Mutual Company
San Gabriel CWD (County Water District)
San Gabriel Valley Water Company
South Montebello Irrigation District
Sterling Mutual Water Company
Sunny Slope Mutual Water Company
Valley CWD Duarte

Educational Institutions

Entity
Art Center College of Design (Pasadena)
California Institute of Technology (CalTech) (Pasadena)
East Los Angeles College (Monterey Park)
LA College of Music (Pasadena)
Pasadena City College (Pasadena)
Providence Christian College (Pasadena)
S. El Monte High School (S. El Monte)
TIME Charter High School (Montebello) Dr. Gabriel Martinez
University of the West (Rosemead)

School Districts

Entity
Alhambra Unified School District (incl parts of Monterey Park)
Arcadia Unified School District

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Duarte Unified School District (incl Bradbury, parts of Irwindale)
El Monte City School District (incl parts of S. El Monte)
El Monte Union High School District (incl part of S. El Monte)
Monrovia Unified School District
Montebello Unified School District (incl parts of Monterey Park)
Mountain View School District (El Monte/S. El Monte)
Pasadena Unified School District (incl Sierra Madre)
Rosemead School District
San Gabriel Unified School District
San Marino Unified School District
South Pasadena Unified School District
Temple City Unified School District
Valle Lindo School District (S. El Monte)

Business Organizations

Entity

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

Workforce Development

Entity

LA/Orange Counties Building & Construction Trades Council Apprenticeship Readiness Fund (Met at Good Jobs for All Mtg) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Anne McGonigle, Executive DirectorBen Garcia, Program Director (Hosted on WC Mtg, July 2023)Isaac Lopez, Case Manager (Hosted on WC Mtg, July 2023)
LA DWP/IBEW Local 18 Utility Pre-Craft Training Program (Met at Good Jobs for All)
MASH – Municipal Assistance, Solutions, and Hiring (City of Pasadena)
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership Workforce Development <ul style="list-style-type: none">Amy Foell (afoell@sgvpartnership.org)

Other - Individuals

Christina Davila, El Monte City School District (Noche 2021 Honoree, Active SGV)
Belinda Faustino (Recommended Contact)

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Peter Huan (phuan008@hotmail.com) – Met at Lunar New Year Event, 2023	
Peter Lin (LALINs2011@Ymail.com) – Met at Lunar New Year Event, 2023	Former CT R7, Civil Engineer (Interested in community seat)
Annette Kondo (Akondo@ph.lacounty.gov) PIO, Ofc of Communications & Public Affairs, County of LA – Met at Lunar New Year Event, 2023	
Jennifer Santana (Upper SGV Water District) – Met at WELL Event 2022	
Karen Suarez (Recommended Contact)	
Brian Tindel (Recommended Contact)	

<https://safecleanwaterla.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Municipality-LACFCD-Contact-List-20230131.pdf>



Appendix G

SCWP Regional Coordination Suggested Questions List

For each [Strategy] below is a series of questions that can help Watershed Coordinators develop a suite of appropriate strategies.

1. Engage Stakeholders, municipalities, community groups.

- **Who are the interested parties in the Watershed Area? Which groups have expressed an interest, and which groups have an interest but may not yet be engaged?** (This is interested party mapping, as described above.)
- Are there marginalized groups or people who need support to become engaged? Have you evaluated equitably the entire community of the Watershed Area to ensure that harder-to-reach, smaller, or often overlooked interested parties will be engaged?
- Within the Watershed Area, who are the correct contact people, and what is their contact information, at the municipalities and county departments related to the Safe, Clean Water Program?
- What regional collaboratives exist that have engaged with the Program, either public sector or within civil society? Are there collaboratives that aren't but should be engaged? School districts, special district governments, private utilities?
- Are there tribal governments or indigenous leaders that need to be engaged directly by the Flood Control District or the County? What can be done to strengthen those interactions as they relate to the SCWP?
- What are the best ways to communicate messages out, and receive messages in, to the SCWP from the interested parties? What technology is appropriate? What venues (city council, community meetings, etc.) or media will be used (web, newspaper, radio, etc.)?

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

- What are the most effective places to attend and listen to the Watershed Area community? Can interviewing, tabling, or surveys draw valuable input? How will community voice be conveyed into the SCWP?
- How can SCWP interface and benefit from other efforts that are currently or recently soliciting input from communities?
- How can the Watershed Coordinator interact with the broader SCWP education program, with its three elements of education, school programs, and workforce development?
- Are there project concepts already held by interested parties but that need help accessing the Technical Resources Program?
- How can the Watershed Coordinator support interested parties having greater engagement with existing public elements of the program (WASC, ROC, Scoring meetings, website, calls-for-projects, low-income and senior assistance program, etc.)

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

- How will the “diversity” in this work effort be defined?

- How can the SCWP listen for diverse perspectives? What ways can perspectives be shared with the District and WASCs; written reports, presentations by the Watershed Coordinator, direct presentations by those holding related perspectives, or other methods?
- Is there overlooked existing information in reports from other programs either past or ongoing that can provide diverse perspectives?
- Would non-English forms of engagement in the Watershed Area enhance this work effort?
- How can diverse perspectives, once shared with the District and WASCs, also be shared across the interested parties?

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

- Where are the communities considered disadvantaged by policy in the Watershed Area? Are there overburdened communities being omitted because of how the policy is written?
- What people are considered “underrepresented” in the Watershed Area? This term is undefined by policy, so how will a shared understanding of its use in the Watershed Area be developed?
- Are there existing or recent past efforts that have engaged disadvantaged communities which can be a source of involvement, and relationships of trust? Are their chosen and trusted representatives currently participating in SCWP?
- How will the expertise and assets held by members of communities be elevated alongside the challenges and needs?
- What barriers to involvement exist in how the program is currently engaging communities? What capacities exist that have been effective at ensuring involvement?

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

- How can the SCWP in general be educated about community issues?
- What education can be delivered to the WASCs that will enhance their understanding of Watershed Area strengths and needs as defined by all interested parties?
- What expertise and understanding already exists among interested parties that can be built upon with further education?
- Which educational efforts, alone or in partnership with the broader education program, will resonate with the interested parties of the Watershed Area?
- What other efforts exist or have recently existed that sought to deliver educational programming? What was their curricula, and their experience?

Identifying Collaborative Efforts

Each SOEP will also identify and describe collaborative efforts and who will be responsible for those efforts across Watershed Area boundaries, or in the two areas with multiple coordinators, how they will collaborate.

Coordinators are expected to play a critical role among local agencies and between WASCs to reduce redundant actions; identify opportunities for cooperative projects. This section of the SOEP will describe the approach to collaboration, including:

- How neighboring or hydrologically-connected Watershed Area Watershed Coordinators will be engaged.
- How will other programs be engaged, for instance, the ongoing Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program (DACIP), the MS4 compliance groups (e.g., WMP or EWMP), the OurCounty Plan implementation, or the WHAM Committee?
- How will the Watershed Coordinator seek connection to the Municipal Program of the SCWP?

Resources

There are many valuable references for watershed coordination in the SCWP, and more generally within the region and California. Below is a list, with links. It is not exhaustive, and this list will move to a shared platform that all coordinators will be able to add to and keep up-to-date.

- SCWP Digital Spatial Library (available on the Resources page at <https://safecleanwaterla.org/>).
 - <https://arcg.is/rbKfm>
- Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management
 - <https://dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/irwmp/>
- Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management
 - <https://www.dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/scr/>
- Los Angeles IRWM Funding Region Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program
 - <https://www.dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/irwmp/Prop1DACIP.aspx>
- Redesign LA – A strategic initiative of the Council for Watershed Health
 - <https://www.redesign.la/>