

Regional Oversight Committee

Meeting Minutes



Thursday, October 26, 2023

1:00pm – 5:00pm

LA County Public Works Headquarters, 1st Floor (Courtyard) Conference Room C

WebEx Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Barbara Romero, City of Los Angeles

Diana Tang, Long Beach Water Department

Kristine Guerrero, League of Cities, Chair

Belinda Faustinos, Retired NGO & State Agency Executive, Vice-Chair

Elizabeth Crosson, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Lauren Ahkiam, LAANE

Charles Trevino, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

Carl Blum, LA County Flood Control District (non-voting member)

Norma Camacho, LA Regional Water Quality Control Board Chair (non-voting member)

Committee Members Not Present:

Maria Mehranian, Cordoba/Former LA Regional Water Quality Control Board Chair

Elva Yañez, Prevention Institute

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District) staff conducted a brief tutorial on WebEx and facilitated the roll call of Committee Members. All Committee Members made self-introductions and a quorum was established.

Kristine Guerrero, Chair of the Regional Oversight Committee (ROC), welcomed Committee Members and called the meeting to order. Chair Guerrero announced that the meeting was being broadcast live in Spanish. Chair Guerrero announced that the purpose of this meeting is to review a draft of the Biennial Report.

Director of Los Angeles County Public Works Mark Pestrella and County Counsel representative Michael Simon introduced themselves to the Committee.

6. Remarks from Director Pestrella

This agenda item was moved up before Agenda Item 2.

Director Pestrella thanked the Committee for their important work. Director Pestrella spoke about the District's mission to serve the public and looks forward to what the future of the Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program holds for the County. As Chief Engineer of the District, Director Pestrella discussed the organizational structure that oversees the SCW Program and shared the vision for the SCW Program to create more active and passive recreational spaces for the community.

Director Pestrella cited the SCW Program as a component of the District's response to pollution in waterways and the human health impacts on County residents. The SCW Program is a watershed-based program and therefore is meant to address community benefits and water resiliency. Director Pestrella also noted the importance of educational efforts during the inception and adoption of the Program and how education continues during implementation.

Director Pestrella met with several Committee Members individually to elicit feedback and reviewed the ROC's Biennial Report. Director Pestrella commented that the feedback reflected in the Biennial Report aligns with the overall vision of the SCW Program and Director Pestrella's own observations, specifically

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what has worked and what can be improved. Director Pestrella conveyed the importance of the SCW Program's flexibility for adaptive management to better serve communities at large.

Director Pestrella noted the significance of interconnections between infrastructure, quality of life, economic opportunity, and human health. The County is pursuing initiatives to make investments based on equity, vulnerability, and human health to create a better future for Los Angeles, such as the Climate-Ready Community Initiative. Director Pestrella conveyed hope for infrastructure improvement, noting significant federal and local funding sources.

Director Pestrella noted that innovation in technology and data is imperative to ensuring that the SCW Program is implemented correctly. Prioritizing building the right projects in the right locations is critical, as is connecting various efforts and avoiding siloed efforts.

Director Pestrella underlined a commitment to the SCW Program and will be attending ROC meetings more frequently in the future, especially during this period where the position of Deputy Director of the Water Resources Branch is vacant.

In regard to the priorities of business line for water resources, Director Pestrella noted that the inclusive water resources and water works is the desired outcome and shared four priority areas:

First, the adoption of a County Water Plan will be completed by early next year and will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors (Board).

Secondly is the acceleration of the SCW Program. Director Pestrella committed to influence, in alignment with the Board, to continue the acceleration of the SCW Program and noted the importance of constructing quality projects in strategic locations. Director Pestrella intends to work more regularly with the ROC to strengthen the SCW Program and ensure collaboration across County departments to see more reliable, sustainable, and cleaner water. Director Pestrella's strategic planning and accountability responsibilities will also yield a SCW Program progress assessment to deliver to the Board.

The third priority is flood risk reduction for the County. Educating citizens and municipalities on how to reduce flood risk, as well as investing more in the preparation for unusual events is necessary to develop greater resiliency.

The fourth priority is drinking water, with Director Pestrella noting how the region is heavily dependent on imported water.

Director Pestrella explained that the ROC is a major component of implementing elements of these four priorities and recognized the Committee's efforts in developing the Biennial Report. Director Pestrella noted that the District will build capacity to plan for projects in terms of technical support and managing data to inform the various WASCs on projects that make the most sense, with a notion on how projects are interconnected in achieving their separate goals. Director Pestrella expressed a desire to partner with the ROC by coordinating resources that cities may need for implementation and assisting the ROC in better understanding the Board's priorities.

Regarding ROC seat appointments and term lengths, Director Pestrella announced that term reappointments will be delayed until the conclusion of the Biennial Report, and that only four-year terms will exist. The Board is expected to revisit ROC appointments early next year. Committee Members interested in serving another term need to fill out the interest to serve form.

Director Pestrella highlighted Member Carl Blum, who contributed significantly to the creation of the SCW Program, expressing that Member Blum can be considered a representative of the Director and the District when participating at the ROC.

Member Norma Camacho noted that there are silos within LA County's Department of Public Works, but also within the County's departments, mentioning Public Health and Environmental Health agencies, in addition to cities and other County planning departments. Member Camacho emphasized the importance of also communicating with these agencies. Director Pestrella agreed and noted that the County's Climate-Ready Community Initiative partners with the Department of Public Health. Director Pestrella recognized that all those in public service need to collaborate to address these interconnected issues and referenced

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the OurCounty Sustainability Plan, where the County's Water Plan is just one component that draws from and supports the larger countywide sustainability plan. Director Pestrella also mentioned other efforts to leverage resources and partnerships with LA Metro and Infrastructure LA regarding transportation and the Bi-partisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

Member Elizabeth Crosson thanked Director Pestrella for attending the ROC meeting and committing to the SCW Program. Member Crosson noted that the ROC and the District share an investment for the Program, and asked Director Pestrella how the ROC can elevate policy concerns to the Board. Director Pestrella noted that the ROC should set goals in collaboration with, rather than in opposition to the District. Member Pestrella noted that the District needs to organize and provide local capacity, especially for Operations and Maintenance (O&M) in smaller jurisdictions.

Member Charles Trevino noted that leveraging funds is critical, such as working with water districts and cities throughout the County. Constructing projects is one way for the Board to notice how well funds are being spent.

Director Pestrella noted that the District is working on streamlining processes and that there needs to be more capacity in planning. Director Pestrella encouraged members of Watershed Area Steering Committees to engage more with community members. District staff will be present to support this engagement and provide technical knowledge and supporting data, but community member voices need to be valued within the WASCs.

Member Lauren Ahkiam expressed interest in how public sector O&M efforts can be connected to workforce development. Director Pestrella noted that a workforce development goal should be included in the Biennial Report. Director Pestrella recommended that the ROC set high level goals and inform the Board on the expected outcomes.

Upon inquiry, Director Pestrella committed to including a goal-setting exercise at a future ROC meeting.

2. Public Comment Period

District staff compiled all public comment cards received by 5:00pm the day before the meeting, loaded them to the SCWP website, and displayed them on-screen. Participants on the Spanish translation line and call-in users were also invited to provide public comment.

District staff noted that this comment period is for comments not related to Agenda Items 8 or 9, which has a separate public comment period in Agenda Item 7.

District staff received five public comment cards beforehand and posted these on the SCW Program website. Comment cards received during the meeting will be added to meeting minutes and posted online after the meeting.

Liz Herron (Resident of the Viewridge Estates in Topanga Canyon) submitted a comment and shared a view that the Viewridge Road Stormwater Improvements Project, proposed in the surrounding neighborhood and median strip of Viewridge Boulevard, is ill-conceived, a misappropriation of funds, and will not accomplish its goals. Herron described the attempts to communicate with Public Works regarding this project and implored the SCW Program to reconsider the project and utilize the funds to place a filtration system downstream closer to the Topanga Lagoon to provide water quality benefits.

3. Approval of August 31, 2023, Meeting Minutes

District staff presented meeting minutes from the previous meeting. Vice-Chair Belinda Faustinos motioned to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Member Crosson. The Committee voted to approve the August 31, 2023 meeting minutes with six votes in favor and one vote in abstention (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

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4. Committee Member and District Updates

District staff provided in update, noting:

- Reappointments to certain governance committee seats are coming soon. These reappointments include the five community stakeholder seats on each of all nine Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASC), the Scoring Committee, and the ROC. The District is supporting the Supervisorial Districts to address appointments and are expected to begin addressing reappointments next month. Appointments are expected to be made to minimize impacts on the current work cycles. ROC seats will not impact Biennial Report process.
- The Project Modification Guidelines were finalized to provide more specific guidance related to scope, budget, or timeline modifications for Projects, Project concepts, and Studies. An informational session was held on October 19. Project Modification Guidelines are related to the current ROC recommendations about streamlining reporting, as this revised process allows for Program participants to provide notification of potential modifications throughout the fiscal year (FY) that can be addressed in a more timely manner than waiting for quarterly report submission and review.
- FY23-24 Transfer Agreements/Addenda distribution is in progress. An email was sent out to new and continuing project applicants/developers with instructions to facilitate the process, including enhanced portal functionality allowing all documents to be more easily tracked and stored.
- The SCW Portal's Bids and Schedules page is constantly being updated and is where all interested parties can see information on upcoming bid opportunities and construction schedules provided by SCW Regional and Municipal Project Developers. The webpage also now includes a new [Reporting Repository](#) to easily provide access to plans and reports from the Regional and Municipal Programs via several different search criteria.
- The Metrics and Monitoring Study (MMS) held two public briefings on October 11 to provide a preview of results to date and next steps. A completed report of recommendations is anticipated around the end of 2023.
- The Scoring Committee began meeting this week and will include the new pilot Water Supply criteria. The Scoring Committee will continue scoring Round 5 projects through December. Currently, there are 21 Infrastructure Program (IP), four Scientific Studies (SS), and five Technical Resources Program (TRP) applications for a total request over \$223M and a total cost share of over \$31M.

5. Ex Parte Communications Disclosures

Member Crosson disclosed a conversation with Our Water LA (OWLA) regarding water supply focus group recommendations.

7. Public Comment Period

District staff compiled all public comment cards received by 5:00pm the day before the meeting, loaded them to the SCWP website, and displayed them on-screen. Participants on the Spanish translation line and call-in users were also invited to provide public comment.

Mark Gold (Natural Resources Defense Council) provided public comment related to the Biennial Report recommendations. Gold noted that the Biennial Report does not adequately assess water quality and water supply. Gold noted that there is no mention of pollutant load reduction and regulatory compliance. Gold expressed a view that progress on water supply was not substantial, although the Water Supply working group did come up with a recommendation of 300k acre-ft per year. Gold felt the Biennial Report does not include enough discussion on workforce development or widescale education. Gold shared an opinion that the Report's sections on municipality funding lacked information and was unclear on what has been funded, as only half of the funding was mentioned. Gold expressed concern that there was also no identification of researchers that are contributing to scientific studies. Gold reflected a sense that the order of the Biennial Report was unusual, with recommendations at the beginning instead of the end, and complained the Biennial Report lacks a vision, detailed next steps, or a section on collaborative partnerships. Gold

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expressed an opinion that the Biennial Report should include an analysis of related programs, referring to pollutant reduction, groundwater augmentation, and the Low Impact Development ordinance.

Bruce Reznik (LA Waterkeeper) provided a public comment with a presentation shared onscreen. Reznik expressed a view that the report is not organized in a manner that lays out a course for the future of the SCW Program. Reznik stated that the recommendations listed were known since Round 1 and that current recommendations should be further along, and shared that there are external groups that have given direction on how to include more specificity into the Biennial Report. Reznik expressed a concern that the Biennial Report is disempowering given the purpose of the ROC. Reznik claimed that the ROC's expertise should be utilized and provide more direction to the Board of Supervisors. Reznik concluded with a recommendation that the ROC take time to get this report right, adding a vision, goals, metrics, and more specificity.

Mike Lewis (Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality) shared a comment, conveying disappointment at the absence of plan development. Lewis urged that the ROC needs to tell the Board to set aside provisions to develop plans. Lewis claimed the Biennial Report is also unclear on how the SCW Program has spent money, and suggested the ROC has the responsibility to communicate to the Board a plan with projects and expected timelines.

Ray Tahir (TECS Environmental) shared an opinion that some projects proposed for the San Gabriel Valley Watershed Management Program Groups are not eligible for SCW Program funding because the projects do not comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). These projects are listed on Tahir's presentation, available on the SCW Program website. Tahir claimed that since these projects divert water from spreading grounds, which reduces the amount of water able to infiltrate and replenish the aquifer, the projects violate CEQA's commitment to increasing groundwater supply. Tahir also mentioned that the Dominguez Channel Watershed Area has been incorrectly combined with the South Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area, and suggested that the cities within the Dominguez Channel Watershed Area are concerned about the limited funds being shared across two watershed areas.

Maggie Gardner (OWLA) provided comment suggesting that the timeline for public review of the Biennial Report Draft was inadequate, the executive summary should include a summary of the report's content, and that the Report should include a specific timeline for implementing the recommendations and be more specific in the recommendations. Gardner recommended the report should also include a breakdown of funds spent and remaining in the District Program, especially concerning the Education Program. Gardner shared a sense that the report lacks recommendations involving community engagement, workforce development, metrics, and scoring updates.

District staff noted that a comment card from the North Santa Monica Bay WASC Vice-Chair Jessica Forte was submitted on behalf of NSMB WASC's Chair Madelyn Glickfeld.

Deborah Bloome (Accelerate Resilience LA (ARLA)) provided a comment regarding the Biennial Report. The ARLA working group was created to develop recommendations for the adaptive management of the SCW Program. Bloome noted that many of ARLA's recommendations were included in the Biennial Report draft but shared a concern that the Biennial Report currently lacks urgency, process, and specificity. Bloome suggested that the recommendations in the Biennial Report have general timeline that may need to be accelerated, pointing to how the Biennial Report allots six months to develop a timeline for implementing recommendations. Bloome recommended that clearer timelines need to be added into the Biennial Report, while also specifying which recommendations will be accelerated, and expressed concern that there is lack of discussion on the process of how recommendations will be implemented. Bloome shared worry that there is no guarantee that public input will be solicited during those decisions, and that the recommendations lack specificity and are not explicit about the precise direction the ROC envisions. Bloome urged the ROC to make these changes to the Biennial Report.

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8. Discussion Items

a) Role of ROC and ordinance requirements for the ROC Biennial Progress Report

Chair Guerrero reminded the ROC that the Committee voted on the August 31 draft recommendations and voted to move forward on and incorporate input from the two focus groups at the last ROC meeting.

District staff provided an overview on the role of the ROC. Presentation slides can be found on the [SCW Program website](#). The Presentation additionally shared Tiers of Implementation/Authority framework, shown below, and slides on ROC Recommendations.

Tiers of Implementation/Authority	
Authority	Mechanism for Recommendation to be Implemented
Tier 1 (District staff)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Regional Program Application PortalSupplementary data, plans, and toolsSupplementary guidance documentsRegional and Municipal Program Reporting Module
Tier 2 (District Chief Engineer or designee)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Operating GuidelinesFeasibility Study Guidelines and Scoring Criteria
Tier 3 (Board of Supervisors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Funds Transfer Agreement ProvisionsOrdinance Revisions within authority of County Supervisors
Tier 4 (Legislation or Voters)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ordinance Revisions requiring vote and/or legislation

District staff reviewed other key sections of the report, including adaptive management and provided summaries on SCW Regional, Municipal, and District Programs.

Chair Guerrero additionally noted that there is a memo from the water supply focus group, which will be discussed later in the meeting's discussion section.

c) Additional Focus Group Input

This item was moved up above agenda item 8b.

The Water Supply Focus Group Memo can be found on the [SCW Program website](#).

Member Crosson presented the Water Supply Focus Group's recommendations. The focus group consisted of ROC Members Blum, Crosson, and Maria Mehranian; Scoring Committee Members Esther Rojas and Bruce Reznik; and Mark Gold (Natural Resources Defense Council), Michael Scaduto (City of Los Angeles Sanitation & Environment), and Art Castro (City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power).

The Water Supply Focus Group developed recommendations, including setting a target for water supply projects to achieve water supply benefits. The Focus Group also recommends figuring out a way to clearly define water supply, as opposed to evaluating any infiltration project as a water supply project. So far, the SCW Program has been implemented as a one size fits all approach, and the Focus Group recommends a watershed area specific approach. For example, some watershed areas are more suited for water supply projects than others, and some are more suited for distributed projects; project evaluation should consider the watershed area they are being submitted in. The Focus Group also recommended that the SCW Program be revised to be able to support larger and more expensive projects regarding water supply. The SCW Program should look for collaborative funding and partnering with agencies such as United States Army Corps of Engineers, Caltrans, school districts, Metropolitan Water District, and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

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Vice-Chair Faustinos mentioned that the focus group recommendations are not currently in the Biennial Report and should be attached as appendices. Chair Guerrero noted that these memorandums could be added to the additional resources section of the Biennial Report.

b) Draft Biennial SCWP Progress Report

The Draft Biennial SCWP Progress Report can be found on the [SCW Program website](#).

Chair Guerrero shared comments submitted by Committee Members who were absent. Member Elva Yanez submitted a comment related to more specific community engagement actions.

Member Mehranian submitted a comment that reiterated the water supply focus group's recommendations and requested a financing plan and onboarding process to invite community members to become WASC Committee Members.

During the meeting, Member Blum distributed a written document that proposed reordering and consolidating the Biennial Report recommendations. The document will be added to the SCW Program website following the meeting. The document suggested organizing the recommendations into four themes: 1) Expedite watershed planning efforts; 2) procedural changes subject to MMS findings; 3) expediting the ROC review process of WASC SIPs; and 4) changing the progress reporting timeline. These recommendations focus on the larger goals and would create a more straightforward recommendation.

Member Trevino agreed with Member Blum's proposal and cited a need to make the Biennial Report simple, direct, focused, and concise.

Vice-Chair Faustinos mentioned that the planning process needs to also include community engagement. Establishing targets by watersheds is important, and the ROC needs to be transparent so that interested parties can be involved. Vice-Chair Faustinos noted that the public needs to understand the importance of the SCW Program.

Member Barbara Romero questioned if the Biennial Report could be submitted in draft form, noting that the Report does not describe specific actions needed to address the recommendations. Many of the recommendations may also make the application process more difficult, or even delay ongoing projects. Member Romero noted that the ROC should work to make the process easier for project developers to apply and deliver projects. Technical support will be required to help projects work with these recommendations. Member Romero commented that if the City of Los Angeles is facing difficulties, then cities with fewer resources are bound to face the same challenges.

Member Romero recognized that the SCW Program is meant to consider many different perspectives, which makes the process difficult. Member Romero suggested a ROC focus group with WASC members to interface with cities and community members to start strategic planning. O&M is a barrier to projects getting approved and cited a need to implement the workforce program and include non-profit organizations.

Member Camacho noted that the public comments all cited a need for strategic planning. Member Camacho spoke on how the SCW Program needs to reflect on how projects work together to meet quantitative goals and consider which watershed areas are best suited to achieve particular projects. There are many opportunities for partnerships and collaboration to leverage funding to help agencies move projects forward. Member Camacho liked how Member Blum's proposal is set up and mentioned that the Board is more likely to provide necessary resources if the ROC can communicate a clear plan for improving the SCW Program.

Member Diana Tang mentioned that the current process does not distribute funds fast enough to create meaningful impact. While Member Tang understands the need to have oversight to control the distribution of public funds, the process needs to be improved and potentially more flexibility. Member Tang confirmed with District staff that the Municipal and District Programs are not moving any faster.

Member Crosson summarized that the issues presented can be separated into two categories: the need for a strategic plan and administrative issues that rely on the findings of the MMS. The beginning of the SCW Program moved quickly to approve a backlog of projects that needed to get started, but now is the time to strategically set goals and targets. The administrative issues may be easier to put deadlines on, but Member Crosson noted that if the MMS is not set to conclude until early 2024, the ROC's Biennial Report

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deadline may be arbitrarily premature and asked the Committee to consider waiting for the completion of the MMS to integrate MMS recommendations into the Biennial Report. Additionally, Member Crosson suggested that the two ROC focus group's memorandums should be integrated into the Biennial Report, not just added as attachments.

Member Ahkiam noted the importance of ROC's recommendations being both overarching enough to be easily digestible to the Board, as well as specific enough to ensure a clear path for implementation. The ROC needs to determine specific recommendations related to evaluating disadvantaged community benefits, considering proximity and proportion.

Committee Members clarified with County Counsel on differentiating recommendations requiring the Board's approval versus legislative changes. County Counsel explained that if any recommendation relates to changing the use of tax funds in some significant way, voters must approve the action; otherwise, the Board would have authority to amend. If the recommendation changes the nature of agreements between the District and others, the Board would be the body of authority.

Member Ahkiam mentioned that watershed area signature assessments should be part of the recommendations. Member Ahkiam also voiced concern regarding the application process and workforce metrics monitoring. The application process should note how a project complies with fund transfer agreements, targeted local hiring, and community workforce agreements. The project application should evaluate a project's ability to create local jobs and meet targeted local hire requirements, in addition to whether a project will be covered by a Project Labor Agreement.

Member Ahkiam would like the Infrastructure Program to encourage partnerships with agencies who do not traditionally have stormwater elements in their projects, such as LA Metro or school districts. Member Ahkiam also noted that there are also opportunities to integrate workforce development programs with low impact development initiatives, such as landscape replacement, direct installation programs, and native habitat O&M.

Member Ahkiam agreed that it made sense to wait for the conclusion of the MMS to integrate the related recommendations. The Biennial Report should also integrate the focus group's recommendations, such as the water supply group's 300 acre-feet per year capture goal.

Member Ahkiam noted that for Recommendation 10, the Biennial Report should include statistics or an infographic to illustrate the accomplishments of the Program to date. Related to recommendation 14, Member Ahkiam noted the MMS did not fully clarify labor standard reporting requirements and O&M monitoring. Member Ahkiam recommended that additional District staff be enlisted to support the gap assessment for scientific studies. Member Ahkiam also noted a desire for a more detailed summary of the Municipal Program. The workforce development program is currently only mentioned in the District Program's summary section of the Report, and Member Ahkiam noted that the workforce development program should be better integrated into the SCW Program as a whole.

Chair Guerrero agreed with the need for a strategic plan and noted that it could be done in a shorter timeline than the allotted six months. Chair Guerrero asked Committee Members if there is anything in the Biennial Report that the Committee would like to make a motion to adopt.

Vice-Chair Faustinos mentioned that a critical element missing from Member Blum's proposal is Community Investment Benefits but otherwise agreed with reorganizing the recommendations in that way. Vice-Chair Faustinos noted that regional planning should not look like cumulative numbers from the District but a bottom-up planning approach that starts with the WASCs and suggested that Recommendation 1 be expanded to be more explicit in its definition of watershed planning. Vice-Chair Faustinos underlined that the SCW Program has goals for Water Supply, Water Quality, and Community Investment Benefits.

The Committee discussed how to move forward with submitting the Biennial Report given the SCW Program deadline and requirements. Since the Board is only required to receive and file the Biennial Report, the Committee discussed the possibility of submitting separate reports, which would give the ROC more time to plan a thorough, strategic plan. The Committee could submit a progress report as required by the SCW Program guidelines, summarizing the WASC reports and other updates. District staff confirmed that the Biennial Report is not the only report that the ROC is allowed to create.

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Some Committee Members noted that the Biennial Report should be rewritten to integrate the specific recommendations from the focus groups. Member Camacho noted that many of the recommendations are Tier 1 and Tier 2 authority related, which means that the responsibility falls to District staff for implementation, not to the Board for approval. These kinds of recommendations should be given timelines.

Member Romero noted that the Board should be aware of the recommendations and ideally the Board would concur and direct District staff to work on implementation. The Report should be simple to understand, and recommendations should be rephrased as clear actions instead of policy recommendations, even if in draft form. Member Romero also noted that there needs to be a reevaluation of how the ROC discusses this effort, noting that focus groups have been a productive use of time.

Committee Members confirmed with District staff that the ROC is allowed to submit a Biennial Report that is mainly a progress report, with or without specific recommendations. District staff noted that depending on the Biennial Report's recommendations, implementation of those recommendations may require Board approval. If the ROC does not submit a full recommendation package, some Committee Members noted that the Board should still be aware of these conversations and the plans that the ROC has to continue developing recommendations.

The Committee discussed that specific recommendations already developed should be included in the Biennial Report, and that the recommendations reliant on MMS findings be submitted in a future report. Committee Members suggested that recommendations that aren't being included this round be given a timeline on when they will be addressed so that the urgency is still preserved. Member Blum suggested that the Biennial Report should be submitted in two phases, where the first phase would include recommendations to expedite watershed planning efforts and the second involving recommendations contingent on MMS.

9. Voting Items

b) Approve or Propose Revisions to Draft Biennial SCWP Progress Report

Member Crosson made a motion to direct District staff to come back to the ROC with an amended Biennial Report that incorporates a progress report and recommendations related to goals and targets, starting with the specific recommendations made by the water supply working group and plan to complete a second report following the completion of the MMS.

County Counsel recommend the Committee name the first report as the Biennial Report and the second with a different name for distinct clarity purposes.

Committee Members noted that Member Crosson's motion does not include Member Blum's proposal. Member Romero also clarified with Committee Members that this motion would be replacing the current draft of the Biennial Report.

Member Crosson amended the motion to include Member Blum's recommendations and community investment benefits—the final motion, to direct District staff to come back to the ROC with an amended Biennial Report that incorporates the progress reports and recommendations related to goals and targets, in accordance with Member Blum's recommendations and additions of community benefits and workforce development, starting with the specific recommendations made by the water supply working group and acknowledging the ROC's desire to prepare a second report following the completion of the Metrics and Monitoring Study. The motion passed, with seven votes in favor (approved, see vote tracking sheet).

District staff verbally committed to preparing this report at least two weeks prior to the next ROC meeting. Committee Members discussed whether the amended report should be made available to the public two weeks in advance of the ROC meeting, or 72 hours in advance of the ROC meeting, similar to the first draft. Member Ahkiam highlighted that many public comments noted that the 72 hours was not enough time for public members to adequately review and provide meaningful comments. Chair Guerrero noted that the two-week buffer in advance of the next ROC meeting is meant for the ROC to make sure District staff accurately reflected the ROC's requests, not to solicit public comments for revision prior to the next ROC

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meeting. District staff noted that a meeting with some Committee Members would be required to clarify the exact direction the amended Report should follow, ensuring that the meeting comply with the Brown Act.

Member Camacho noted interest in working with Regional Board staff and non-governmental organizations to make more specific water quality recommendations in preparation for the next ROC meeting. Member Romero agreed that an expedited process, such as a water quality focus group, would be beneficial. In the end, the ROC agreed to utilize a representative subgroup to develop the next iteration of their report. Volunteers were solicited, and four members were selected to work with District staff to develop the next draft: Carl Blum, Belinda Faustinos, Norma Camacho, and Lauren Ahkiam.

10. Items for Next Agenda

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday December 7, 2023, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Items for the next meeting include:

- b) Final Biennial SCWP Progress Report

Vice-Chair Faustinos thanked the ROC and acknowledged the recent passing of prominent local leader Cindy Montañez.

11. Meeting Adjourned

Chair Guerrero thanked ROC members and the public and adjourned the meeting.

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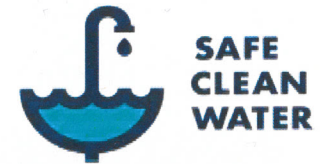
	Quorum Present			
Member Type	Member	Present?	Approval of the August 31, 2023 Meeting Minutes	Motion to direct District staff to come back to the ROC with an amended biennial report that incorporates the progress reports and recommendations related to goals and targets, in accordance with Member Blum's recommendations and additions of community benefits and workforce development, starting with the specific recommendations made by the water supply working group and plan to complete a second report following the completion of the Metrics and Monitoring Study.
Voting Member	Maria Mehranian			
Voting Member	Barbara Romero	x	y	y
Voting Member	Diana Tang	x	a	y
Voting Member	Kristine Guerrero	x	y	y
Voting Member	Belinda Faustinos	x	y	y
Voting Member	Elizabeth Crosson	x	y	y
Voting Member	Lauren Ahkiam	x	y	y
Voting Member	Elva Yanez			
Voting Member	Charles Trevino	x	y	y
Non-Voting Member	Carl Blum	x		
Non-Voting Member	Norma Camacho	x		
Total Non-Vacant Seats	9	Yay (Y)	6	7
Total Voting Members Present	7	Nay (N)	0	0
		Abstain (A)	1	0
		Total	7	7
			Approved	Approved

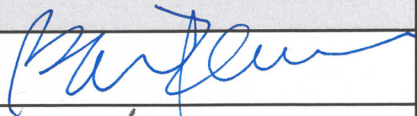



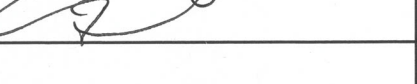
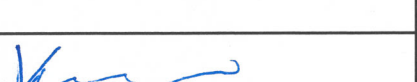


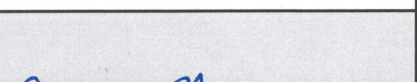
Attendance
Regional Oversight Committee - October 26, 2023

Alexander	James Cortes	Nancy Shrodes she/her
Alonso	Jason Casanova, CWH	Omar Gomez
Amanda Begley, TreePeople	Jeannette Hernandez	Pablo Forni
Andrew Kim	Jennifer Aborida	Paige Bistromowitz
Annelisa Moe she/her	Jeremy McGranahan SGA	Paul Shadmani
Ava Farriday	Jessica Forte	Pearl Azizian
Brad Wardynski Craftwater	Joe Venzon - LA County	Raina
Brendan Miller	Johanna Chang	Ramy Gindi
Bruce Hamamoto	John Hunter	Richard Watson
C.J. Caluag	JonPaul Sarro	Robert Sahagun
Call-in User_2	Jose Castro- LACFCD	Roberto Gomez
Call-in User_3	Joyce Amaro	Rochelle Paras Wilson
Call-in User_4	Julie	Ryanna Fossum Regional Coordination
Call-in User_5	Justin Jones - LACFCD	SCWP - Chair & Director
Call-in User_7	Larry Tran - LACFCD	Safe Clean Water LA
Call-in User_8	Laura Muraida	Serena Zhu
Call-in User_9	Leila Talebi	Seta
Carlos Moran	Luis Perez	Shea Thornbury
Carlos Moran- ULAR Watershed Coordinator	M	Sofia Cardenas
Christine McLeod	Marisela Velasquez	Stacy Luell
CityUser	Marisol Ibarra	Susie Santilena
Craig	Marisol Serrano	Taylor McCauley
Craig Cadwallader – SSMB WASC	Mark Beltran LACFCD	Tiffany Wong
David Lennon	Megan Kung	Tony Garcia
Deborah Bloome	Mei-Lin	Turner Lott
Dee Corhiran	Melania Gaboyan - LACFCD	Uriel Cobian
Denise Dolor	Melanie Hu - LACFCD	Veronica Carrillo
Devon Provo	Melissa Turcotte	Yisak Kim
Donna T	Michael Gagan	james
Drew Ready CWH	Michael Scaduto	janet L
Eric Bonilla - LACFCD	Michelle Yeh	john
Fernando Villaluna	Michelle struthers	julian juarez
G Kast	Mikaela Randolph	kristina kreter
Ghina Yamout	Mikaela Randolph	sam rodriquez
Giselle Franco	Mike Antos	wendy Dinh
Jacqueline Mak	Mossavi, Conor	

Regional Oversight Committee Meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBER SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Email Address	Signature
Voting Members			
Barbara Romero	City of Los Angeles	barbara.romero@lacity.org; riki.esquer@lacity.org	
Belinda Faustinos	Nature For All	belinda@lanatureforall.org	
Charles Trevino	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD	cmtwater@yahoo.com	
Diana Tang	City of Long Beach	Diana.Tang@longbeach.gov	
Elizabeth Crosson	Metropolitant Water District	ECrosson@mw dh2o.com	
Elva Yanez	Prevention Institute	elva@preventioninstitute.org	
Kristine Guerrero	League of Cities	kguerrero@cacities.org	
Lauren Ahkiam	LAANE	lahkiam@laane.org	
Maria Mehranian	Cordoba / Former RWQCB Chair	mmehranian@cordobacorp.com	
Non-Voting Members			
Carl Blum	Flood Control District	clblum@pacbell.net	
Norma Camacho	LA Regional Water Quality Control Board Chair	Norma.Camacho@Waterboards.ca.gov	

Regional Oversight Committee Meeting

PUBLIC SIGN-IN



First Name	Last Name	Municipality/Organization	Email Address
Raina	Dwivedi	CNRG	
Ryanne	Fogsum	Stantec	
Liz	HERRON	Viewridge HOA Member of Estates in	
Jeffrey	Rex	TRC	
Bruce	Peznik	UAW	
Tom	LOVE	Upper SGV MWD	
Mark	GOLDF	MRPC	
Rng	TALLIN	TECS	

*Signing or completing this form is voluntary for members of the public

Regional Oversight Committee Meeting

PUBLIC SIGN-IN



First Name	Last Name	Municipality/Organization	Email Address
Leslie	Friedman Johnson	CNRG	
Lisz	Skutelski	HDR	[Redacted]
Emily Ng	Ng	Stantec	
Maggie	Gardner	LA Waterkeeper/AWLA	
Gary	McCue	TRC	
Wilfred Ng	Hsu	Michael Baker	

Dr. Inc

Com

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