

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES**  
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

CAO WA# 0220-06219-0000  
Council File No. –  
Council District – ALL

Date: June 07, 2024

To: Los Angeles City Council

From:   
Matthew W. Szabo, Chair  
Measure W - Safe, Clean Water Program - Administrative Oversight Committee

Subject: **TRANSMITTAL – RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO THE REQUEST FROM THE BUREAU OF SANITATION FOR APPROVAL OF THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES' SAFE, CLEAN WATER PROGRAM**

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council, subject to approval by the Mayor,

1. Approve the Community Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan (COESP) for the City of Los Angeles' Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP);
2. Direct the Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) to publish and implement the COESP, and distribute the policy document to other City of Los Angeles Departments implementing SCWP Projects; and,
3. Instruct LASAN to submit periodic updates regarding changes to the COESP to the Administrative Oversight Committee, including any updates the Los Angeles County Flood Control District may make to outreach requirements and guidance.

## SUMMARY

At its regular meeting on May 30, 2024, the Administrative Oversight Committee of the Measure W – Safe, Clean Water Program (Measure W AOC) considered a report from the Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) dated May 20, 2024, regarding approval of the Community Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan (COESP). The Measure W AOC considered the request and amended the recommendations to request that the COESP be a living document and that LASAN report to the Measure W AOC periodically with updates as changes are made. The amended recommendations reflect the intent of the Measure AOC and are hereby transmit to Council for consideration.

## FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the General Fund resulting from the recommendations included in this report, as the action is administrative only.

## **FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT**

The recommendations of this report comply with the City's Financial Policies in that there is no anticipated impact to the General Fund or City's special funds.

Attachment

May 20, 2024 LASAN Report for Approval of Community Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan for the City of Los Angeles' Safe, Clean Water Program

*MWS:PJH/JVW:JPQ:10240237*



**CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE**

Date: May 20, 2024

To: Measure W: Safe, Clean Water Program Administrative Oversight Committee  
Matthew W Szabo, City Administrative Officer  
Sharon M. Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst  
Ryan Jackson, Office of the Mayor

From: Michael Scaduto, PE, ENV SP  
Principal Engineer  
Safe, Clean Water Implementation Division  
LA Sanitation & Environment

**Subject: Approval of Community Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan for The City of Los Angeles' Safe, Clean Water Program**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Approve the Community Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan (COESP) for The City of Los Angeles' Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP).
2. Direct LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN) to publish and implement the COESP and distribute the policy document to other City of Los Angeles Departments implementing SCWP Projects.

**BACKGROUND**

In November 2018, Los Angeles County (County) voters approved Measure W, which created the SCWP administered by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD). The SCWP was developed in collaboration with public health, environmental groups, cities, business, labor, and community-based organizations to protect water quality and provide new sources of water for the Los Angeles community. The SCWP generates an estimated \$280 million annually from a countywide property tax assessment. These funds are utilized by LASAN, as well as other city departments, for the development of regional and municipal stormwater projects and programs.

A 2019 City Council file on the Governance Structure for Measure W - Safe, Clean Water Program (CF 18-0384-S1) instructed LASAN, with assistance from the Chief Legislative Analyst, the City Administrative Officer and other participating departments, to develop a strategic outreach plan to engage community SCWP stakeholders. In December 2020, LASAN presented an initial draft COESP to the SCWP Administrative Oversight Committee (SCWP AOC). The SCWP AOC instructed LASAN to report back once the County's Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) Biennial Review and other adaptive management actions were further developed and the SCWP Working Group had incorporated these latest strategies for more community engagement and participation into the COESP.

As directed, these guidelines have been updated into the latest COESP, which now provides direction for the development and implementation of community outreach and engagement activities that meet the requirements for capital projects funded by both the SCWP Regional

Program and Municipal Program, as well as operations and maintenance (O&M) activities associated with funded projects. The COESP also now incorporates key influential program developments such as the LACFCD's SCWP 2022 Interim Guidance and the SCWP's onboarding of Regional Program Watershed Coordinators, who develop Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plans for each of the Watershed Area Steering Committees.

The COESP is a living document, intended to be updated every two years based on new developments within the SCWP, changes to City policies, and advancements in outreach and engagement best practices.

## CONSIDERATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

In accordance with the SCWP Municipal and Regional Transfer Agreements, as well as the 2022 Interim Guidance issued by the LACFCD, community outreach and engagement activities are required throughout the entire life of a SCWP project to solicit, address and seek input from community members. It is essential to create a transparent and informative community outreach and engagement process that welcomes community input and engagement, incorporates community values, and fulfills the goals of the City and SCWP.

The City's COESP outlines processes for initiating partnerships and informing the community of pending projects. The COESP policy includes specifications regarding the SCWP's governance, branding, messaging, reporting requirements and the SCWP Transfer Agreement's community outreach and engagement requirements. In addition, the COESP provides direction for methods and materials for community outreach and engagement, delineated for three different types of programs:

- **Programmatic Outreach:** Consists of community outreach and engagement activities for the City's overall SCWP and how the City is participating in the County's SCWP. Programmatic outreach includes information on the City and County programs, key sustainability and program benefit messages, program contacts, and how to learn more about the program and projects.
- **Municipal Program Project-Specific Outreach:** Focuses on specific community outreach and engagement activities for projects funded by the City's municipal disbursement. Outreach activities occur during key points in the projects' life cycles, starting with project development and continuing through design, construction and O&M.
- **Regional Program Project-Specific Outreach:** Focuses on specific community outreach and engagement activities for projects funded by the Regional Program and the unique requirements and public review process associated with County's annual Regional Call for Projects Program. Community outreach and engagement activities will need to occur during the development of the projects' feasibility study to demonstrate public support for the project through the attainment of letters of support from community based-organizations.

LASAN recommends that the SCWP Administrative Oversight Committee approve the Community Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan (COESP) for the City of Los Angeles' Safe, Clean Water Program and direct LASAN to publish and implement the COESP and distribute the policy document to other City of Los Angeles Departments implementing Safe, Clean Water Program Projects.

#### Attachment 1: City of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program Community Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan

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# City of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program Community Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan LA Sanitation and Environment May 2024



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**Appendix B:** Safe Clean Water Ordinance 186612

**Appendix C:** Los Angeles County Safe Clean Water Program Transfer Agreement Template

**Appendix D:** Los Angeles County Safe Clean Water Program 2022 Interim Guidance

**Appendix E:** City of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program Toolkit

**Appendix F:** Municipal Program Project-Specific Outreach Checklist & Worksheet

**Appendix G:** Regional Program Project-Specific Outreach Checklist & Worksheet

**Appendix H:** City of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program Project Sign Design Guidelines

**Appendix I:** FY 2023-24 Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

**Appendix J:** FY 2023-24 Southern Santa Monica Bay Watershed Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

**Appendix K:** FY 2023-24 Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan

## Executive Summary

As the lead agency for watershed management and water quality compliance programs for the City of Los Angeles (City), LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN) is partnering with other City departments, municipalities, regional agencies, and community-based organizations (CBOs) to coordinate the City of Los Angeles' participation in the Los Angeles County Safe Clean Water Program (SCW Program).

The goals of the SCW Program are in alignment with City of Los Angeles sustainability goals and will enable the City of Los Angeles to:

- Reduce Los Angeles' reliance on imported water,
- Enhance water quality,
- Develop local water supplies,
- Improve flood control,
- Comply with federal, state and local water quality mandates,
- Protect local rivers, creeks, lakes and bays,
- Create more green space, and
- Empower and invest in local communities.

The LA County SCW Program requires meaningful, authentic community outreach and engagement throughout the life of every SCW Program-funded infrastructure project, from inception to completion. These community outreach and engagement requirements are consistent with the City of Los Angeles' values and commitment to meaningful outreach and engagement with local communities and stakeholders.

The City of Los Angeles' Safe Clean Water Program Community Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan (COESP) reflects these core values and demonstrates how outreach and engagement will be conducted in accordance with the LA County SCW Program requirements. The COESP presents the following:

- Communication goals and objectives,
- A multi-pronged approach for community outreach and engagement,
- Strategies, methods and materials for community outreach and engagement,
- Coordination strategies and methods with LA County SCW Program watershed coordinators, and
- Reporting requirements mandated by the LA County SCW Program.

The COESP is a living document and will be updated on a two-year basis, incorporating updated guidance and requirements related to the LA County SCW Program, new best practices related to community outreach and engagement, lessons learned, and updated regulatory requirement



## Section 1 Background

In November 2018, Los Angeles County voters approved Measure W, which created the Safe Clean Water Program administered by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District). Developed in collaboration with public health, environmental groups, cities, business, labor, and community-based organizations, the LA County SCW Program generates an estimated \$280 million annually from a countywide property tax assessment.

The LA County SCW Program goals include:

- Implement a plan for the County of Los Angeles' water system to capture the billions of gallons of rainwater runoff lost in Los Angeles each year.
- Help protect Los Angeles' coastal waters and beaches from the trash and contaminants in stormwater that can make people sick and threaten marine life.
- Modernize LA's 100-year-old water system infrastructure, using a combination of nature, science, and new technology.
- Protect public health, ensuring safer, greener, healthier, more livable spaces.
- Assist government agencies in meeting National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Permit requirements.
- Prepare the Southern California region for the effects of a changing climate — including recurring cycles of drought, wildfires, and flooding.
- Require strict community oversight and independent auditing to ensure local monies raised would stay local.

The LA County SCW Program includes two sources of potential funding for the City of Los Angeles and include Regional Program Funding and Municipal Program Funding, as described below:

### 1.1 Regional Program Funding

Fifty percent (50%) of the LA County SCW Program annual revenues (an estimated \$140 million) are allocated to fund regional multi-benefit stormwater projects, programs and studies in the nine LA County watershed areas. Applicants seeking SCW Regional Program Funding are required to submit project-funding proposals to LA County through an annual Regional Call for Projects process. Submitted applications are reviewed by District staff, and subsequently scored and evaluated through a public process and included in annual Stormwater Investment Plans, which are considered for approval by the LA County Board of Supervisors.

### 1.2 Municipal Program Funding

Forty percent (40%) of the LA County SCW Program annual revenues are disbursed directly to municipalities to fund local stormwater projects. Funding is distributed to cities proportional to the tax revenues collected within their jurisdictions. An estimated \$112 million will be allocated to Los

Angeles County's 88 cities and unincorporated areas for multi-benefit water quality and water capture projects. The City of Los Angeles will receive an estimated \$36 million annually.

The remaining ten percent (10%) of the LA County SCW Program annual revenues (an estimated \$28 million) will be utilized by the District to develop and implement programs, which include a public education program, local workforce job training, and school education programs.<sup>1</sup>

As a municipality within the County of Los Angeles, the City of Los Angeles' jurisdictional area overlaps three County SCW Program watershed areas in the Southern California region - the Central Santa Monica Bay watershed, the South Santa Monica Bay watershed, and the Upper Los Angeles River watershed. Each of these three watershed areas is unique in their physical, social, and political conditions as well as their pollutants of concern.

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<sup>1</sup> The County Ordinance Chapter 16 Section 16.04-Expenditure Plan states: "Ten percent (10%) shall be allocated to the District for implementation and administration of Projects and Programs, and for the payment of the costs incurred in connection with the levy and collection of the Special Parcel Tax and the distribution of the funds generated by imposition of the Special Parcel Tax in accordance with the criteria and procedures established in this Chapter."

## Section 2 City of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program Governance

On October 2, 2019, the Los Angeles City Council approved a report from the Energy and Environment (E&E) Committee instructing the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) and City Administrative Officer (CAO) to report on a collective governance model for both the regional and municipal program relative to the LA County SCW Program. The report specified that the governance model should include the participation of LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN), Department of Water and Power (DWP), Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP), Bureau of Engineering (BOE), and Bureau of Street Services (StreetsLA).

On November 27, 2019, the CLA and CAO presented a memo (CLA/CAO Memo) to E&E Committee (**Appendix A**) outlining the recommended governance structure for the City of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program (City SCW Program). This memo instructed the Bureau of Sanitation, with assistance from the CLA, the CAO, and other participating departments, to develop a strategic outreach plan to engage community stakeholders and submit to the Administrative Oversight Committee, for review and modification as necessary prior to transmittal to the Mayor and City Council for consideration. This memo also outlined roles and responsibilities of City departments within the City's governance structure.

### 2.1 Roles and Responsibilities

**SCWP Administrative Oversight Committee (SCWP AOC)** - Consists of representatives from the Offices of the Mayor, CAO and CLA. The City SCWP AOC was established by the passage of Ordinance 186612 by the City Council in June 2020 (**Appendix B**). The duties and responsibilities of the SCWP AOC consist of the following:

- Develop and review criteria for the selection of projects as proposed by City departments;
- Review project proposals to determine if they meet adopted project criteria;
- Oversee, direct and monitor the program and projects to ensure timely completion within approved schedules and budgets;
- Monitor utilization and cost of City personnel, personal services contracts, expense and equipment for the projects;
- Review Memorandum of Agreements between departments and outside agencies concerning the program;
- Resolve any issues of concern between the departments to address program and project needs; and
- Any actions of the SCWP AOC are subject to Council and Mayor consideration. The Council and Mayor would have final authority over the program.

**SCW Program Working Group** - LASAN, as the City's lead agency for the LA County SCW Program, is tasked with organizing and facilitating regular meetings of the Working Group, and other City departments, and advising and initiating project proposals and compliance plans. Each of the SCW participating City departments possess valuable expertise that can help the City

optimize its involvement and administration of the LA County SCW Program, both at the regional and municipal level, and have committed to develop, propose and implement projects collaboratively. Representatives from the following City departments have been in attendance: LASAN, StreetsLA, BOE, City Attorney, CLA, CAO, LADWP, LA World Airports Authority, Port of Los Angeles, and RAP. Participation in the LA County SCW Program is limited to the departments listed here. Other departments participate in assisting the City in furthering LA County SCW Program objectives.

***LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN)*** - LASAN has one designated agency seat on the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) and one designated agency seat on the Central Santa Monica Bay WASC. LASAN is approved by the Los Angeles City Council<sup>2</sup> to be the City of Los Angeles' lead agency to work with Los Angeles County staff to support the LA County SCW Program WASC activities and efforts associated with the Central Santa Monica Bay, Upper Los Angeles River, and South Santa Monica Bay watersheds. LASAN's responsibilities in leading the City's stormwater/watershed management and stormwater quality project implementation allows it to work effectively with City departments and regional agencies in coordinating the LA County SCW Program activities.

***LA Department of Water and Power (LADWP)*** - LADWP has two designated agency seats on the Upper Los Angeles River WASC and one seat on the Central Santa Monica Bay WASC. These seats allow LADWP to play a significant role in the LA County SCW Program's Regional Program. LADWP pursues the funding of regional projects, which augment water supply and improve water quality. The pursuit of regional projects of this nature is consistent with its core business.

***Recreation and Parks Department (RAP)*** - RAP maintains one designated agency seat on each of three WASCs - the Central Santa Monica Bay WASC, the South Santa Monica Bay WASC, and the Upper Los Angeles River WASC. The designation of seats allows RAP to effectively integrate needed park space into regional projects, thereby maximizing stormwater/watershed management efforts. RAP plays a significant role in the LA County SCW Program's Regional and Municipal Programs by identifying project-viable park space, designating the land, and assisting in project development and implementation stages.

***Bureau of Engineering (BOE)*** - Under the LA County SCW Program's Regional Program, BOE does not maintain designated seats on any WASC. However, BOE, whose primary role is to design and construct municipal projects, possesses long-standing expertise in the implementation and construction of stormwater/watershed management and water quality projects.

***Bureau of Street Services (StreetsLA)*** - StreetsLA is primarily responsible for managing and maintaining LA city streets and does not maintain designated seats on an LA County SCW Program WASC. In recent years, it has expanded its involvement in environmental and

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<sup>2</sup> Council File CF 18-0384-S1 *Governance Structure For Measure W - Safe, Clean Water Program*  
[https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2018/18-0384-S1\\_rpt\\_CAO\\_11-27-2019.pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2018/18-0384-S1_rpt_CAO_11-27-2019.pdf)

sustainable practices, which correlate with the stormwater/watershed management objectives of the LA County SCW Program. StreetsLA's involvement in the program assists to maximize the City's project potential.

In December of 2020, LASAN presented an initial draft public outreach plan to the SCWP AOC. The SCWP AOC instructed LASAN to report back once the County's Regional Oversight Committee updates guidance and the Working Group incorporates strategies for more community engagement and participation. These guidelines have been updated into this COESP, which provides direction for the development and implementation of community outreach and engagement activities that meet the requirements for projects funded by both the SCWP Regional Program and Municipal Program, as well as operations and maintenance (O&M) activities associated with funded projects. This document outlines processes for initiating partnership and informing the community of pending projects. It incorporates key influential program developments such as the LACFCD's SCWP 2022 Interim Guidance and the onboarding of Regional Program Watershed Coordinators, who develop Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plans for the Watershed Area Steering Committees.

## **Section 3 Los Angeles County Safe Clean Water Program – Community Outreach and Engagement Requirements**

Community outreach and community engagement is an important element of the LA County SCW Program. The development and implementation of community outreach and engagement activities, which solicit, address and seek input from community members, is a requirement for all projects funded by the LA County SCW Program throughout the entire life of a project.

Multiple LA County SCW Program documents outline community outreach and engagement requirements. These documents include:

### **3.1 Regional Program, Infrastructure Project Feasibility Study Guidelines**

Infrastructure projects that are submitted to the LA County SCW Program for consideration for SCWP Regional Program funding require a feasibility study. The infrastructure project feasibility study must include (1) “A plan for outreach/engagement to solicit, address, and incorporate stakeholder input on the Project, which should also address issues related to displacement and gentrification” and (2) “A discussion of whether the Project has community-based support and/or has been developed as part of a partnership with local non-governmental organizations or community-based organizations.”

The LA County SCW Program Scoring Committee scores Regional Program projects and awards points (0-4) based upon the community outreach and engagement information provided by the project applicant. If a project “demonstrates strong local, community-based support and/or has been developed as part of a partnership with local non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations” the LA County SCW Program Scoring Committee may award up to four points.

### **3.2 LA County SCW Program Transfer Agreements (Regional and Municipal Programs)**

Recipients of SCW Program funding in both the regional and municipal programs will receive funding once they execute a Transfer Agreement, which specifies minimum required community outreach and engagement activities. (**Appendix C**)

Section A-8.3 of the Los Angeles County Transfer Agreement specifies minimum required outreach/engagement activities for Infrastructure Program Project Funding, including that “Stakeholder and community outreach/engagement plan activities should occur at the onset of the project, during the design phase, and during construction.”

Regional Program funding recipients “shall submit a Stakeholder and Community Outreach/Engagement Plan for Infrastructure Program Projects and include a discussion of how local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and/or CBOs will be involved, if applicable, and if

not, why. Additional outreach/ engagement activities, even if funded by other sources, should be referenced to provide an overview of anticipated overall project approach.” Regional Program community outreach and engagement activities are addressed in the Regional Program Transfer Agreements as follows:

### 3.2.1 Community Outreach Activities in the Regional Program

Section A-8.3 of the Los Angeles County Transfer Agreement states “Community outreach activities to provide information to residents and information about upcoming meetings or other engagement activities/events are scheduled. Outreach methods used should be appropriate in scale and type to the community being served. Outreach methods include but are not limited to:

- Online media outreach (email blasts, social media, publication on a website);
- Local media outreach (newsletters, local and regional newspapers, and local radio and television); and
- Grassroots outreach (door-to-door canvassing, phone banking, surveys and focus groups, and distribution of flyers or other printed materials). The District will support outreach efforts through web-based platforms if requested at least four weeks prior to the requested publish date. The District should be included in all social media outreach and notified of all meetings and other engagement events.”

### 3.2.2 Community Engagement Activities in the Regional Program

Section A-8.3 of the Los Angeles County Transfer Agreement additionally noted “Community engagement activities solicit, address and seek input from community members for Funded Activities. These events may occur as part of any public meeting with multiple agenda items such as council, commission or committee meetings where public input is invited; or at festivals, fairs, or open houses where a table or booth may be set up.”

**Table 1**, from Section A-8.3 of the Transfer Agreement, outlines the required community outreach and engagement activities by project cost:

**Table 1. Excerpt Table from the Section A-8.3 of the Transfer Agreement**

SCW Program Project Cost	Required Activity 1	Required Activity 2
Project is up to \$2,000,000	One outreach activity or one engagement activity	Not applicable
Project is up to \$10,000,000	One outreach activity	One or more engagement activities
Project is more than \$10,000,000	One outreach activity	Two or more engagement activities

Section A-8.4 of the Transfer Agreement states that “If the funded activity is for Operations and Maintenance (O&M) of an Infrastructure Program Project, Outreach/Engagement activities shall occur biennially to remind communities of the SCW Program Contribution.”

Section A-8.5 of the Transfer Agreement states that the plan must include “Activities and measures to mitigate against displacement and gentrification. This includes, as applicable, an acknowledgement that the funded activity will be fully subject to and comply with any Countywide displacement policies as well as with any specific anti-displacement requirements associated with other funding sources.”



### 3.3 SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance

In May 2022, the District issued SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance (**Appendix D**), which included (1) expectations on community engagement by project phase, (2) best practices for community outreach and engagement and (3) requirements for documenting community support.

All phases of a LA County SCW Program-funded infrastructure project should include authentic and sustained outreach and engagement to solicit, address and incorporate community input. Per the SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance, **Table 2** provides guidelines on community outreach and engagement by project phase. **Table 3** outlines best practices for conducting outreach and engagement to ensure equity, inclusion and accessibility.

**Table 2. Guidelines on Community Outreach and Engagement by Project Phase**

Project Phase	SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance	Expectations for Community Outreach and Engagement	Frequency
<b>Planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community engagement outcome is to identify stakeholders and involve them in identifying community needs, concerns, and objectives, as well as the potential solutions.</li> <li>- Project Applicants should identify stakeholders and Inform/Consult with stakeholders prior to the submission of the application (refer to <b>Table 3</b>).</li> <li>- Resources for community engagement prior to the submission of the application should be prioritized and secured utilizing other available funds, as applicable, including Municipal Program funds if the applicant is a municipality. If such resources did not exist prior to submission of the application, a clear description of the limitations should be included by the Project Applicant along with a description of any planned efforts to procure future resources for these planning activities.</li> <li>- Funding needed for additional engagement efforts, whether for additional planning or future phases, can be included in the SCW Program funding application.</li> </ul>	Sustained engagement to solicit, address, and incorporate stakeholder input on the Project, including issues related to displacement and gentrification, should occur throughout all phases of a Project.	The goals and expectations for level of community engagement may vary based on timing and the current phase of the Project. Project applicants are strongly encouraged to seek input from Watershed Coordinators to achieve desired goals based on Project phase.
<b>Design</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community engagement outcome includes further solicitation, evaluation, and incorporation of stakeholder input, as applicable and able, such that Project decision making is done iteratively and equitably, including active education about Project benefits.</li> <li>- Refer to section A-8.3 of the Transfer Agreement for minimum required outreach/engagement activities based in Infrastructure Program Project Funding (see <b>Table 1</b>).</li> </ul>	All outreach and engagement activities, even if funded by other sources, should be referenced to provide an overview of anticipated overall Project approach.	
<b>Construction through Monitoring &amp; Operations &amp; Maintenance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community engagement outcomes are to realize effective partnerships, maintain relationships and sustained education, and communicate/recognize Project progress and Project benefits in order to best prepare for the success of long-term maintenance, monitoring, and/or plans for future Project phases.</li> <li>- Project developers are already required to report on activities through the funded duration of the project (see <b>Table 3</b>).</li> </ul>		

**Table 3. Best Practices for Conducting Outreach and Engagement**

	Good	Better	Best
<b>Engagement Levels</b>	<p><b>Inform</b> - Provide the community with relevant Information</p> <p><b>Consult</b> - Gather input from the Community</p>	<p><b>Involve</b> - Ensure community input, needs, and assets are integrated into processes, receive demonstrable consideration and appropriate responses, and inform planning</p> <p><b>Educate</b> – Grow community understanding of the existing infrastructure systems, purposes, perceived outstanding needs, pertinent history and regulations, SCW Program opportunities (including Watershed Coordinators) to establish</p> <p><b>Learn</b> – Grow your own understanding of existing community, perceived needs, pertinent history, key concerns, and other potentially interested parties.</p>	<p><b>Collaborate</b> - Leverage and grow community capacity to play a leadership role in both planning and implementation</p> <p><b>Incorporate</b> - Foster democratic participation and equity by including the community in decision making, bridge divide between community and governance</p> <p><b>Partner</b> – Establish certain project concepts based on community-driven and identified needs, solidify formal partnerships, and build in sustained paths forward to joint implementation and management with well defined roles per agreement</p>
<b>Example Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fact Sheets with translation as needed</li> <li>- Open Houses</li> <li>- Presentations</li> <li>- Videos</li> <li>- Online Media</li> <li>- Social Media</li> <li>- Local Media</li> <li>- Listening Sessions</li> <li>- Public Comment</li> <li>- Focus Groups</li> <li>- Surveys</li> <li>- Polling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- House Meetings</li> <li>- Interactive Workshops &amp; Tours</li> <li>- Community Forums</li> <li>- Canvassing</li> <li>- Transparent responses to community comments</li> <li>- Document expanded understanding and commitment to ongoing relationships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MOUs or support letters with Community Based Organizations</li> <li>- MOUs or support letters with Tribes affected by the Project</li> <li>- MOUs or support letters from Elected Officials</li> <li>- Community Organizing</li> <li>- Citizen Advocacy Committees</li> <li>- Open Planning Forums with Citizen Polling</li> <li>- Community-Driven Planning</li> <li>- Consensus Building</li> <li>- Participatory Action Research</li> <li>- Participatory Budgeting</li> <li>- Cooperatives</li> <li>- Volunteerism activities</li> <li>- Workforce Development activities</li> </ul>

SCW Program projects should target the “Best” category at all project phases, listed in **Table 3**. Those claiming “Better” or “Best” engagement practices should also demonstrate the incorporation of listed examples from the lower categories when documenting their justification of completed or planned outreach and engagement.

To be consistent with the 2022 SCW Program Interim Guidance these are additional best practices to consider for effective and inclusive community outreach and engagement:

- Project proponents should provide a reasonable budget for outreach/engagement activities that aligns with the outreach/engagement plan. These costs can be included in the SCW Program funding request or funded by other sources and should acknowledge/account for any specific needs or focus during certain project phases.

- Communicate early and often with respective Watershed Coordinators. Communication with Watershed Coordinators should begin at project idea or early conceptual planning and continue throughout the project milestones.
- Engage with elected representatives of communities to benefit from existing conversations, relationships, and planning efforts.
- Leverage existing relationships in the community and the outreach/engagement expertise of local CBOs and NGOs.
- Establish meaningful dialogue early in the project timeline with both federally recognized and non-federally recognized Tribes that are or may be affected by the proposed project in an early and ongoing process with a basis of mutual respect and recognition of consultation capacity and needs.
- Use outreach and engagement methods that are appropriate in scale and type to the community being served (e.g. neighborhood-specific, family-focused, culturally appropriate, etc.).
- Review recent engagement efforts undertaken by others with the same community to become familiar with community goals and wishes. Ensure new engagement honors other recent contributions made by the community.
- Identify, source, and contract local CBO's that have an established and long-standing relationship with the community of interest for doing outreach for your project.
- Coordinate with partner educational, non-profit, and governmental entities to prevent community meeting fatigue and frustration about redundant meetings. This includes outreach and engagement coordination within the City's SCWP governance structure, including the LA SCWP working group and Administrative Oversight Committee.
- Support awareness of outreach/engagement events through multiple platforms (online media, local media, grassroots outreach, etc.).
- Inform the community at least one week prior and send reminders a day or two before the event.
- Draft language that is plain, clear, and relatable.
- Provide interpretation services, necessary information and materials in the primary languages spoken in the community.
- Provide project team training and consider involving residents from the local community.
- Consider transportation options for community members who do not own vehicles or hold community outreach and engagement activities where the community already meets.
- Consider virtual or online meetings to increase access to information and participation. If an online approach is taken, consider the digital divide for community members who do not have reliable access to the internet.
- Refer to <https://www.redesign.la/resources> to post events and for community events/engagements that are being coordinated with the Watershed Coordinator efforts.

Per the SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance, the above-mentioned guidelines/terms may be applied to all aspects of the SCW Program, including Regional Program Project applicants, Watershed Coordinator efforts, and planning/reporting in the Municipal Program. In addition to the

aforementioned best practices outlined in the 2022 SCW Program Interim Guidance, Watershed Coordinators have strongly suggested and advised that Project proponents also do the following:

- Get aside a reasonable budget for engagement with community members and Tribal Governments and groups. Communication with Tribal Governments and representatives should begin at project idea and prior to conceptual planning and continue throughout the project milestones.
- Give community members notice further in advance of project events, at least two weeks prior and send reminders one week before and two days before project events.
- Provide child care and integrate watershed educational activities into meetings held after regular school hours.
- Coordinate outreach events with watershed coordinators and share outreach materials for watershed coordinators to distribute through their means of communication. Where possible, work together with watershed coordinators to co-produce materials and co-host events.

### **3.4 Requirements for Community Support Documentation**

The District released further guidance for documenting community outreach and engagement in its 2022 SCW Program Interim Guidance. Whenever possible, community support documentation should address specific SCW Program benefits and goals including, but not limited to, water quality, water supply, and community investment benefits, as well as anti-displacement efforts, benefits to disadvantaged communities, nature-based solutions, and the needs of the community.

As stated in the 2022 SCW Program Interim Guidance, “to achieve points for community support at the discretion of the Scoring Committee, documentation may include, but is not limited to:

- Letters from involved community leaders, NGOs/CBOs, individuals, tribal representatives, and elected representatives stating their support for the proposed project.
- Minutes from meetings, including attendees and their affiliations (if applicable), photos, flyers, or other documentation.
- Letters of support from CBO/NGOs explaining how they contributed to shaping the proposed project.
- Verification that the benefits provided directly address identified community needs such as a summary of community concerns and how the concerns were addressed. If particular community concerns were not addressed by the project, please provide a discussion of why those concerns could not be addressed.
- Future community outreach and engagement plans that incorporate best practices described herein.”

The 2022 SCW Program Interim Guidance also states, “Projects submitted for inclusion in Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) must document any community engagement prior to submission and describe plans for engagement during project implementation. Resources, like Watershed Coordinators and/or the Technical Resources Program may support proponents with

community engagement prior to the award of funding.” Please refer to the Collaboration Strategies with the LA County SCW Program Watershed Coordinators section of this document for further details.

Even so, completing community engagement and/or providing sufficient evidence of community support prior to receiving funding can be challenging for many applicants. As noted in the 2022 Interim Guidance, “[c]ommunity engagement does not guarantee community support, and a strong demonstration of community support may not necessarily be the result of engagement.”

### **3.5 Program Reporting**

Reporting is an essential element of the LA County SCW Program. The LA County SCW Program is focused on ensuring strict community oversight and independent auditing to ensure local monies, which are collected locally, stay local. The reporting requirements, which include community outreach and engagement efforts, include reporting deadlines for the Regional and Municipal programs. The reporting process provides another opportunity for public involvement and is publicly available for transparency.

#### **3.5.1 Municipal Program**

##### **3.5.1.1 Annual Plan Requirements**

The City is required to submit an Annual Plan of the Municipal Program funded by its annual disbursement no later than 45 days after the execution of the Transfer Agreement. The Annual Plan should include:

- Description of all projects anticipated to be funded with the Municipal Program funds;
- Delineate achievement the LA County SCW Program goals;
- Description of the anticipated community outreach/engagement activities including discussion of how local NGOs or CBOs will be involved, if applicable, and if not, why; and
- Additional outreach/engagement activities, even if funded by other sources, should be referenced to provide an overview of anticipated overall project approach.

Furthermore, the City is required to provide LA County with Annual Progress/Expenditure Reports within six (6) months following the end of the Fiscal Year (by December 31) to detail the activities of the prior year. The Annual Progress/Expenditure Report shall include such information as:

- Description of activities that have occurred,
- Milestones achieved, and
- Progress made during the applicable reporting period including comparison to the Annual Plan and corresponding metrics, including documentation of the community outreach and engagement utilized for and/or achieved

## 3.5.2 Regional Program

### 3.5.2.1 Initial Budget Plan/Scope of Work Requirements

For the Regional Program, the City is required to submit a Budget Plan for each project approved for funding in the Annual Stormwater Investment Plan. The Budget Plan includes the project's scope of work, which will include a community outreach/engagement plan.

### 3.5.2.2 Progress/Reporting Requirements

The LA County SCW Program's Regional Program reporting requirements are as follows:

- Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports are to be submitted to LA County no later than 45 days following the end of the calendar quarter.
- The Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports include specified information on project status and use of the LA County SCW Program funds (e.g. photos of community outreach events, stakeholder meetings, groundbreaking ceremonies, and project site) of the phases or tasks of the Project completed during the reporting period.
- Annually, a summary of the Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports is to be submitted to the WASC to explain the previous year's Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports by the Recipient. The summary report is due six (6) months after the close of the Fourth Quarter (by December 31 of each year).



## Section 4 City of Los Angeles SCW Program Community Outreach and Engagement

The community outreach and engagement elements within the City of Los Angeles SCW Program work to develop and implement a comprehensive, transparent and authentic plan focused on genuine collaboration with community members and project stakeholders.

### 4.1 Program Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives of the City of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan are to:

- Implement a transparent and informative community outreach and engagement process that welcomes and fosters community input and engagement, incorporates community values, and fulfills the goals of the LA County SCW Program.
- Conduct community outreach and engagement activities in accordance with the LA County SCW Program requirements for the Regional and Municipal programs, as well as O&M activities associated with funded projects.
- Implement a stakeholder outreach and engagement process that encourages authentic engagement with communities regarding proposed and approved/funded infrastructure projects, including a project's status, pre-design and design plans, construction schedule and O&M activities.

### 4.2 Program Components

Community outreach and engagement supporting the objectives and goals of the City SCW Program will be achieved through a three-pronged approach:

1. *Programmatic Outreach* - Consists of community outreach and engagement activities for the City's SCW Program and focuses on the City's participation in the LA County SCW Program. Programmatic outreach includes information on LA County SCW Program elements, key sustainability and program benefit messages, program contacts, and how to learn more about the program.
2. *Municipal Program Project-Specific Outreach* - Focuses on specific community outreach and engagement activities for projects funded by the City's municipal disbursement. Outreach and engagement activities occur during key points in a project's life cycle, starting with project development and continuing through design, construction and O&M.
3. *Regional Program Project-Specific Outreach* – Focuses on specific community outreach and engagement activities for projects funded by the Regional Program and the unique requirements and public review process associated with LA County's annual Regional Call for Projects Program. Community outreach and engagement activities will occur during the



development of a project's feasibility study and throughout a project's scoring and review process by the LA County SCW Program Scoring Committee and respective WASC.

Please see **Table 1** (Excerpt Table from the Section A-8.3 of the Transfer Agreement) for a listing of the required community outreach and engagement activities.

### 4.3 Methods and Materials for Community Outreach and Engagement

Community outreach and engagement activities are required throughout the entire lifecycle of SCW Program-funded infrastructure projects - from before a project's conception to the post-construction operations and maintenance (O&M) phase. The City SCW Program utilizes myriad methods and materials for community outreach and engagement for municipal and regional-funded infrastructure projects. These include, but are not limited to:

- Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, NextDoor, YouTube);
- Traditional media (Newspapers, Radio and TV);
- Media advisories and press releases;
- E-newsletters and e-blasts;
- Website updates;
- Community-driven planning meetings with elected officials, neighborhood councils, project stakeholders, CBOs, and NGOs, Tribes and citizen advocacy committees;
- Materials including PowerPoint presentations, program and project-specific fact sheets, visual simulations, timelines, maps and videos, surveys and polls, display boards;
- Peer-to-peer project communication and engagement using ambassadors to engage with local community members, vulnerable populations, or those who may not have access to technology;
- Multilingual speakers and materials, as necessary;
- On-site and community pop-up events and tablings;
- Cross-promotion with the District and Watershed Coordinator Teams; and
- Inclusion of project-specific educational and safety-related signage

Methods for community outreach and community engagement activities will be developed and tailored for the unique needs of each project and a project's stakeholders and community. The City SCW Program strives to utilize and implement the LA County 2022 Interim Guidance for community outreach and engagement best practices.

### 4.4 City of Los Angeles SCW Program Branding, Messaging and Toolkit

It is important for the City's SCW Program to have a distinct brand that is immediately recognizable from other City programs, while also being aligned with the LA County SCW Program and the City's other sustainability initiatives, such as the Sustainable City pLAn.

Collectively, these initiatives all support common themes of ensuring that the Los Angeles region is environmentally healthy, economically prosperous, and equitable in opportunity for all - now and into the future. Common themes and messages are:

- Reducing LA's reliance on imported water by developing new water supply sources,
- Protecting local rivers, creeks, lakes, bays and beaches,
- Creating more green space,
- Empowering and investing in local communities,
- Improving flood control, and
- Complying with federal, state and local water quality mandates

To ensure that community outreach and engagement activities are inclusive, outreach materials will be translated into other languages, as needed based on community demographics, and alternative communication methods will be explored and implemented for project stakeholders and community members lacking access to technology. In addition, in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, accommodations will be made available to provide sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, closed captioning, or other auxiliary aids or services upon request.

Unique graphics and color palette create an immediately recognizable aesthetic and brand for the City SCW Program. The selected colors and developed program graphics evoke images of clean water, local water supplies and the greening of communities. A toolkit of materials developed with this aesthetic include a PowerPoint Presentation template, a SCW Program fact sheet, project-specific fact sheet template, report cover template, e-blast/e-newsletter templates and social media post templates. Additional materials will be developed as the program moves forward, evolves and new needs are identified (**Appendix E**).

To ensure that each SCW Program-funded project includes adequate and appropriate outreach, Project-Specific Outreach Checklist & Worksheets for Regional and Municipal Projects (**Appendices F and G**) guide teams from project inception to post-construction/O&M to meet LA County SCW Program community outreach and engagement requirements.

Additional resources include:

- Project-Specific Outreach Checklist & Worksheets for Regional and Municipal Projects (**Appendices F and G**)
- The County of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program's website: [safecleanwaterla.org](http://safecleanwaterla.org)
- The City SCW Program web pages: [lacitysan.org/safecleanwater](http://lacitysan.org/safecleanwater)
- The City SCW Program's email address: [san.safecleanwater@lacity.org](mailto:san.safecleanwater@lacity.org)

#### 4.5 Acknowledgement of Credit

The City will include appropriate acknowledgement of credit when promoting activities and projects funded by the LA County SCW Program, including the posting of signage in prominent locations at project sites. All project signage includes the LA County SCW Program color logo and the following disclosure statement: “Funding for this project has been provided in full or in part from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District’s Safe Clean Water Program.”

Project signage is used to inform and educate residents, community members, and project stakeholders about a specific project, including its benefits, construction schedule, funding source(s), partner agencies and/or organizations and contact information if questions or concerns arise.

The City of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program Project Sign Design Guidelines (**Appendix H**) provides guidance to project managers on project signage requirements.

## **Section 5 Collaboration Opportunities and Strategies**

The LA County SCW Program provides a myriad of opportunities for collaboration and coordination to develop and encourage community outreach and engagement activities. The LA City SCW Program will pursue collaborative endeavors with the following public and private partners:

### **5.1 Elected Officials**

The City SCW Program coordinates with elected officials on a local, state and national level regarding proposed and funded SCW Program projects.

### **5.2 Proprietary Departments**

City of Los Angeles proprietary departments, including Department of Water & Power (DWP), Los Angeles World Airports Authority, and the Port of Los Angeles, develop and implement community outreach and engagement activities independently. They are encouraged to:

- Liaise with LASAN and sister departments, including the StreetsLA, the BOE, and RAP;
- Use similar program best practices in developing community outreach and engagement materials;
- Reference SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance on strengthening community engagement and support; and
- Utilize the City of LA SCW Program Working Group to discuss and coordinate the SCW Program with representatives from the City departments in attendance.

### **5.3 Non-Governmental Organizations/Community Based Organizations/ Ancestral Nations**

Collaboration with NGOs, CBOs, and Tribal representatives is imperative throughout the life of a project. The City of Los Angeles works to identify project stakeholders and involve them in all phases of a project including collaboration before a project's inception, sustained engagement throughout the pre-design, design and construction phases of a project and any planned O&M after a project's completion.

The Accelerate Resilience Los Angeles SCW Program Working Group (ARLA Working Group) is a group of NGOs and municipalities serving together to explore and analyze the benefits and tradeoffs of various program and project implementation scenarios. The ARLA Working Group includes representatives from the City of LA Mayor's Infrastructure Team.

The ARLA Working Group aims to develop metrics for balanced watershed projects stemming from the SCW Program and provide consensus-based recommendations to LA County regarding potential refinements to the Program to maximize investments and project benefits.

As a guidance, the ARLA Working group has provided recommendations in their document entitled “Using Watershed Science to Build Consensus and Maximize Benefits of L.A. County’s Safe Clean Water Program,” which is a valuable resource to inform LA County’s broader efforts to adaptively manage the SCW Program.

This document includes several recommendations. Recommendation 5 (Create Community Engagement Programs) outlines specific guidelines for the District and NGOs/CBOs to reference, but many can be adapted and adopted by the City’s SCW Program:

- The goals of the community engagement program should include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - Educate and engage communities around their watershed, water literacy, and multi-benefit stormwater best management practices;
  - Foster diverse and dynamic knowledge communities with relevant, contextualized, and intersectional learning;
  - Ensure community engagement efforts are sustained over the lifecycle of SCW Program projects and over the lifecycle of the overall SCW Program;
  - Manage conflicts in a transparent manner with a trusted process; and
  - Elevate grassroots and community voices
- Utilize local CBOs to lead community engagement and needs assessments for the SCW Program in coordination with the Watershed Coordinators and municipalities.
- Conduct surveys and needs assessments to determine existing barriers to participation and establish guidelines by which NGOs/CBOs can incentivize individuals to participate in community engagement activities.
- Develop community engagement training materials to be available to District program staff, committee members, and project proponents.
- Conduct regular process and outcome evaluations throughout the program implementation and monitoring processes.
- Lead community engagement activities including, but not limited to:
  - Engage community members in SCW Program implementation and educate about the SCW Program as an available opportunity to fund multi-benefit stormwater projects;
  - Organize collaboratives, trainings, and convenings that assist with the learning curve for stakeholders who want to participate in implementation but do not know how;
  - Review what engagement has been done before to determine what can be learned from prior efforts; and

- Gather information about community strengths, needs, and priorities. Information about needs should not be limited to just the SCW Program in order to inform leveraging opportunities.

#### 5.4 LA County SCW Program Watershed Coordinator Teams

In early 2021, the LA County SCW Program employed Watershed Coordinator Teams for each of the nine watersheds. The goals of the Watershed Coordinator Teams include facilitating community engagement, identifying priorities within the watershed's communities, identifying and developing project concepts, integrating priorities through partnerships and stakeholder networks, leveraging funding, educating local stakeholders and collaborating with municipal partners and other Watershed Coordinator Teams on a broader regional basis. For more information on the responsibilities and tasks of each of the Watershed Coordinators Teams in the watersheds within LA City's jurisdiction, please reference the Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (**Appendix I**), Southern Santa Monica Bay Watershed Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (**Appendix J**) and Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (**Appendix K**).

The ongoing support and engagement with the Watershed Coordinators is key for a project applicant to have a well-received project during submission, with the Scoring Committee, with the WASCs, and throughout the life of a project. A few of their duties and responsibilities are listed below per LA County Ordinance 2019-0042, Section 18.07 - Regional Program Implementation:

"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:

- Work with Technical Assistance Teams to bring resources to potential Infrastructure Program Project Applicants;
- 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;
- Identify and help leverage and secure additional funding sources for Regional Projects and Programs;
- Engage Municipalities, community groups, and other watershed Stakeholders to ensure diverse perspectives are included in planning and implementation of the Regional Program;
- Conduct community outreach to diverse communities, with an emphasis on disadvantaged communities;

- Provide leadership in community outreach efforts related to watershed planning;
- Facilitate collaborative decision-making between private and public entities to develop and implement actions that best address community priorities;
- Integrate community, municipality, and regional priorities through partnerships and extensive networks;
- Organize public outreach events included in SIPs, such as workshops, demonstrations, community forums and restoration activities, to educate stakeholders on stormwater-related topics;
- Serve as non-voting members of the WASCs for their respective watershed areas; and
- 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.”

Communication early and often with a watershed’s respective Watershed Coordinator Team is important. Project applicants are strongly encouraged to seek input from watershed coordinators to achieve desired goals based on the project’s phase.

Please refer to the Watershed Coordinator’s webpage for more information:  
[www.safecleanwaterla.org/watershed-coordinators](http://www.safecleanwaterla.org/watershed-coordinators)

For community events/engagements being coordinated with the watershed coordinators, visit:  
[www.redesign.la/scwpcalendar](http://www.redesign.la/scwpcalendar)

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES**  
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

0220-05558-0000

Date: November 27, 2019

To: City Council  
Energy, Climate Change and Environmental Justice Committee

From: Richard H. Llewellyn, Jr.  
City Administrative Officer



Sharon M. Tso  
Chief Legislative Analyst



Subject: **GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE FOR MEASURE W - SAFE, CLEAN WATER PROGRAM (CF 18-0384-S1)**

## RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council:

1. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present an ordinance to establish the Measure W – Safe Clean Water (SCW) Administrative Oversight Committee (AOC) consisting of representatives from the Offices of the Mayor, City Administrative Officer and the Chief Legislative Analyst and establish AOC responsibilities as noted in the report; actions taken are subject to Council and Mayor approval;
2. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present an ordinance that establishes the Measure W - Safe, Clean Water Regional Projects Special Fund administered by the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation for the receipt, retention and disbursement of funds received from the Los Angeles County SCW Program for Regional Projects;
3. Request the City Attorney to prepare and present an ordinance that establishes the Measure W - Safe, Clean Water Municipal Program Special Fund administered by the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation for the receipt, retention and disbursement of funds received from the Los Angeles County SCW Municipal Program;
4. Instruct the Bureau of Sanitation, with assistance from the Chief Legislative Analyst, the City Administrative Officer and other participating departments, to develop a proposed strategic outreach plan to engage community stakeholders and submit to the Administrative Oversight Committee, for review and modification as necessary prior to transmittal to the Mayor and City Council for consideration;
5. Instruct the Bureau of Sanitation, in collaboration with the Working Group, to develop a proposed Watershed Investment Strategy Plan and submit to the Administrative



Oversight Committee, with the Administrative Oversight Committee to review and modify as necessary and transmit to the Mayor and City Council; and

6. Authorize the City Administrative Officer, with the concurrence of the Chief Legislative Analyst, to make technical changes as needed to implement Mayor and City Council intentions.

## SUMMARY

On October 2, 2019, the City Council approved a report from the Energy, Climate Change and Environmental Justice Committee (Committee) instructing the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) and City Administrative Officer (CAO) to report on a collective governance model for both the regional and municipal program relative to Measure W – Safe Clean Water Program (Measure W; C.F. 18-0384-S1). It specified that the governance model should include the participation of Bureau of Sanitation (BOS), Department of Water and Power (DWP), Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP), Bureau of Engineering (BOE) and Bureau of Street Services (BSS).

In addition, the City Council instructed the CAO and the CLA to develop a comprehensive Program strategy (regional and municipal) for project development and implementation that includes the following:

- Balances water supply, resilience, and water quality compliance obligations of the City;
- Provides *equity* in terms of City-wide funding and supports multi-benefit project approaches;
- Prevents/mitigates project selection conflicts and/or internal City department competition for funding; and
- Supports local hiring objectives, including maximizing Minority Business Enterprise/Women's Business Enterprise opportunities, partnership opportunities with local businesses, and prioritizes burdened communities in addition to Measure W requirements.

## BACKGROUND

On November 6, 2018, Los Angeles County voters approved Measure W – The Los Angeles County Safe, Clean Water Program, a parcel tax of 2.5 cents per square foot of impermeable surface to support the costs of stormwater-related projects and activities. The CAO and CLA issued a joint report dated June 28, 2019 that provided an overview of the County program, and recommended the establishment of a special fund for the receipt of Measure W revenues and an appointment process for municipal representatives to the oversight entities established by the County.

This report provides recommendations for a collaborative and transparent governance model that incorporates County requirements, City policy objectives and community input. It is expected that as the City gains experience with this new program or as the County adopts revisions to its implementation guidelines, the governance process may need to be modified accordingly. It is

the intent to develop a structure that does not create additional or burdensome bureaucracy and builds on processes already existing within the stakeholder departments' regular operations.

## **DEPARTMENT ROLES**

The City Council instructed our Offices to report on a collective governance model for both the regional and municipal program and to factor in the participation of BOS, DWP, RAP, BOE and BSS. As a result, our Offices met with each Department to discuss their services and their potential roles with respect to the Measure W program.

### ***Bureau of Sanitation***

The City Council action on October 2, 2019 designated BOS as the City's lead agency to work with Los Angeles County staff to support Steering Committee activities/efforts associated with Central Santa Monica Bay, Upper Los Angeles River, and South Santa Monica Bay Watersheds. In addition, the City Council tasked BOS with preparing informational and advisory materials for the City's municipal seat representatives.

BOS' lead agency designation is based on its role in coordinating and managing the City's stormwater/watershed management and water quality compliance programs. BOS oversees the City's compliance with Federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit regulations and related water quality compliance measures. To that end, BOS plays an integral part in implementing the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) and the Enhanced Watershed Management Programs (EWMPs) which represent the City's strategy for effectively coordinating a variety of water-resource management elements - water quality, water supply, flood control, habitat and wetlands restoration and stormwater/watershed management. BOS also serves as the City's project planning program manager for the Proposition O Program which is a \$500 million general obligation bond program for stormwater/watershed management projects for the City's waterways.

BOS' responsibilities in managing the City's stormwater/watershed management and water quality compliance programs should allow it to work effectively with City departments and regional agencies in coordinating Measure W activities.

### ***Department of Water and Power***

DWP has designated seats on two watershed steering committees - the Central Santa Monica Bay and the Upper Los Angeles River. These seats will allow DWP to play a significant role in Measure W's regional program.

Over the course of the past several years, DWP has focused on ensuring water supply and expanding local water resilience. For example, its Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) is a blueprint for creating reliable sources of water and increasing the use of recycled water to effectively manage water supply. In addition, DWP has created a Stormwater Capture Master Plan (SCMP) which expanded the UWMP and set goals for stormwater capture over a 20 year period ending in 2035.

DWP has also engaged in cleaning up the San Fernando Groundwater Basin (SFGB) in an effort to increase future local water supplies. DWP initiated the Stormwater Capture Parks Program whereby nine City parks would be improved to capture and divert stormwater and urban runoff

into subterranean infiltration galleries to recharge the SFGB. DWP is working closely with RAP and BOE to implement these projects.

DWP has also worked with City departments in the implementation of Proposition O projects and has participated in other City stormwater/watershed management efforts. With respect to the Measure W program, DWP informed our Offices that it intends to pursue the implementation of regional projects which augment water supply and improve water quality. The pursuit of regional projects of this nature is consistent with its core business. In turn, DWP anticipates a limited role in the municipal program.

#### ***Department of Recreation and Parks***

RAP maintains designated seats on three watershed steering committees under the regional program - Central Santa Monica Bay; South Santa Monica Bay and Upper Los Angeles River. The designation of seats is important to program objectives since it will permit RAP to effectively integrate needed park space into regional projects, thereby maximizing stormwater/watershed management efforts.

Currently, RAP is working with DWP and BOE on the implementation of the Stormwater Capture Parks Program as discussed above. RAP has also played a significant role in designating park space for projects associated with the Proposition O program. These projects have multi-benefit scopes which include watershed management improvements coupled with open space and habitat protections. RAP plans to play a significant role in Measure W's regional and municipal program by identifying project-viable park space, designating the land and assisting in project development and implementation stages.

#### ***Bureau of Engineering***

Under Measure W's regional program, BOE does not maintain designated seats on a watershed steering committee. However, BOE, whose primary role is to design and construct municipal projects, possesses long standing expertise in the implementation and construction of stormwater/watershed management and water quality projects.

BOE enhanced its expertise serving as the Proposition O project implementation program manager. As part of its Proposition O function, BOE was responsible for ensuring that projects were implemented on schedule and within approved budgets. BOE has effectively collaborated with BOS, DWP, RAP and other City departments to implement Proposition O projects successfully, including many "first of its kind" projects such as the South LA Wetlands. In this regard, BOE may work with other City departments to implement and construct projects associated with both the regional and the municipal program.

#### ***Bureau of Street Services***

BSS is primarily responsible for managing and maintaining the condition of City streets and does not maintain designated seats on a watershed steering committee. In recent years, it has expanded its involvement in environmental and sustainable practices. For example, the BSS has been engaged in implementing *green street* elements and projects that convey stormwater and urban run-off from the City corridors. This includes redesigning streets to divert and capture stormwater; and the planting of bioswales and trees to aid in this effort. These practices help improve flood control, reduce pollution and improve water quality.

These activities correlate with the stormwater/watershed management objectives of the Measure W program. As such, BSS's involvement in the program would help to maximize the City's project potential.

It should be noted that participation in the Measure W program should not be limited to the departments identified in this section. Other departments may offer to assist the City in furthering Measure W objectives.

## **WORKING GROUP**

Each of the departments noted above maintain valuable expertise that can help the City optimize its involvement and administration of the Measure W program - both at the regional and municipal level. Given this, these departments should collaborate closely and form a working group to propose and implement projects. Each entity can provide its expertise to further the City's Measure W efforts.

To facilitate the working group effort, BOS, as the City's lead agency on Measure W, can be tasked with organizing the group, and other City departments, on a regular basis and advise and initiate project proposals and compliance plans. It is recognized that City departments will have varying levels of involvement in each component of the program. Some departments will be exclusively focused on the regional program; while others the municipal program or both. The working group's activities can be divided up in a manner that reflects the department's focus. To formalize this effort, these departments should be directed/requested to work collaboratively on the Measure W program consistent with their department's scope of service and expertise.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

In order to ensure proper administration of the Measure W program, our Offices recommend the formation of an Administrative Oversight Committee (AOC) to oversee the program. The AOC should consist of the City Administrative Officer, Chief Legislative Analyst and the Mayor's Office.

The establishment of an AOC for programs of this nature is common in City practice. The Proposition O program is one example that maintains an AOC reporting structure. In addition, the CAO serves as the chair for the Proposition O AOC, as it does for other programs. To ensure continuity, the CAO should continue to serve in that capacity for this program's AOC.

The duties and responsibilities of the AOC should consist of the following:

- Develop and review criteria for the selection of projects as proposed by the departments;
- Review project proposals to determine if they meet adopted project criteria;
- Oversee, direct and monitor the program and projects to ensure timely completion within approved schedules and budgets;

- Monitor utilization and cost of City personnel, personal services contracts, expense and equipment for the projects;
- Review Memorandum of Agreements between departments and outside agencies concerning the program;
- Resolve any issues of concern between the departments to address program and project needs.

Any actions of the AOC would be subject to Council and Mayor consideration. The Council and Mayor would have final authority over the program.

## **WATERSHED INVESTMENT STRATEGIC PLAN**

Watershed management is a highly complex effort subject to multiple regulatory agencies, rules and requirements. The State of California Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Quality Board) oversees the imposition of requirements to preserve and protect the region's water resources by the issuance of Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permits (MS4 Permits) to public agencies throughout the region. Permit compliance is guided by various EWMPs that have been prepared collaboratively with partner agencies and approved by the Water Quality Board. BOS is responsible for the City's MS4 Permit and all regulatory compliance efforts within the City, including stringent monitoring and reporting requirements. BOS is the lead agency for four watersheds and is a partner on a fifth watershed, all of which are impacted by City discharges and runoff. The County's Measure W Program combines watersheds such that the City has majority share of three (Central Santa Monica Bay, South Santa Monica Bay and Upper Los Angeles River) and is a partner on a fourth watershed (North Santa Monica Bay).

The County's Measure W Program dovetails into this regional watershed management effort and provides funding and guidance with the ultimate goal of achieving regulatory compliance pursuant to MS4 requirements. The County's Measure W Program goals, as specified by the Flood Control District, include various elements such as the improvement of water quality, water supply and community benefits for both municipal and regional projects (Section 18.04, Chapter 18, Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code; Attachment A).

The City can choose to incorporate additional program goals consistent with the County's implementation requirements, such as prioritizing multiple-benefit projects or projects in disadvantaged communities. Additionally, the City can choose to place highest priority on those projects which will achieve the greatest TMDL compliance outcome. However, additional policy objectives should also take into consideration the County's Measure W scoring criteria, particularly for Regional Projects, to ensure successful outcomes resulting from the competitive process. This is further discussed below.

This report proposes the use of a Watershed Investment Strategic Plan (WISP) with two components: 1) provide policy guidance that encompasses the County's requirements and addresses the City's specific interests; and 2) serve as a capital projects management tool to organize, prioritize and manage both municipal and regional programs with the following broad key elements:

- Project evaluation criteria based on the County's Measure W program goals and include the following City-specific policy objectives:
  - Balance water supply, resilience, and water quality compliance obligations of the City;
  - Provide equity in terms of City-wide funding and support multi-benefit projects approaches;
  - Prevent/mitigate project selection conflicts and/or internal City department competition for funding; and,
  - Support local hiring objectives, including maximizing Minority Business Enterprise/Women Business Enterprise opportunities, partnership opportunities with local businesses, and prioritize burdened communities
- Rolling five fiscal year period prepared annually, including capital and operations and maintenance (O&M) proposed expenditures
- For each project, designate the department(s) responsible for project implementation and O&M
- Provide actual and projected O&M expenditures for completed projects
- BOS lead preparation of the WISP
- Stakeholder departments to provide input and collaborate with BOS

Specific elements of the WISP should be discussed further by the Working Group with the final format approved by the AOC to ensure that a robust and efficient document is developed. Consideration should also be given to the multiple various watershed and/or stormwater planning documents that already exist and integrating these existing documents into the WISP process to achieve efficiencies and avoid redundancy. As the City gains experience with this program, there may be a need to capture and report different elements for either the municipal or regional program.

### ***Municipal Program***

The County's Measure W program requires that municipalities prioritize projects that assist in achieving MS4 Permit compliance, prepare an expenditure plan in advance of each fiscal year, remain in compliance with County reporting and audit requirements, develop and implement a stakeholder engagement plan, and prepare a vector minimization plan for each project (Section 18.06, Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code). Municipalities must spend at least 70 percent of local funds on eligible expenses for projects implemented on or after November 6, 2018, including O&M expenditures for MS4 Permit compliance projects that also meet County requirements. Municipalities can spend up to 30 percent of local funds for O&M expenditures on projects or programs implemented prior to November 6, 2018. In the first year, the City is expecting to receive approximately \$35 million.

For the City's municipal program, the first year of the WISP will serve as the fiscal year Capital Improvement Expenditure Program (CIEP) for the Measure W – Municipal Program and submitted annually by BOS as part of their Proposed Budget. It is recommended that BOS lead the preparation of the document, incorporating input from all stakeholder departments and potentially include projects that may originate from Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) as well as other departments. Incorporating the municipal program into the City's regular budget process will ensure that an expenditure plan is in place and that financial information will be

publicly available, as required by the County. Additionally, BOS will coordinate reporting and ensure that the maintenance of effort requirements are satisfied.

### ***Regional Program***

The County Measure W regional program consists of several layers of approval and oversight. Proposed projects must satisfy these requirements for further consideration:

- Completion of a feasibility study or equivalent information
- Provide multiple benefits
- Must be included in a stormwater resource plan developed in accordance with the cited sections of the Water Code, a watershed management program developed pursuant to an MS4 Permit, an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, or other regional water management plan deemed equivalent by the County
- Minimum useful life of thirty years

Projects that satisfy the threshold requirements may then be considered by the Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASCs) and scored by the Scoring Committee in accordance with the following criteria (110 points maximum):

- Water quality benefits - 50 points
- Water re-use and/or water supply enhancement benefits - 25 points
- Community Investment Benefits - 10 points
- Nature-Based Solutions - 15 points
- Project leverages other funds and/or demonstrates strong local, community-based support and/or has been developed in partnership with an NGO or Community-Based Organization (CBO) - 10 points

Projects must achieve a minimum score of 60 points to be eligible for consideration. WASCs will adopt a five-year Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP), subject to the aforementioned criteria and scoring requirements, as part of the project approval process. If recommended for funding by the WASC, funds will be provided to the City via a Transfer Agreement for each funded project as detailed later in this report.

The WISP should include a regional program component as the planning tool for the City's projects to be submitted to the WASCs for consideration. The Working Group would work collaboratively to determine the highest-priority projects based on their competitive potential and apply the County's scoring matrix to identify the recommended projects to be included in the proposed WISP.

### ***Project Selection Process***

As previously mentioned, the County's Measure W program includes specific goals for eligible projects. BOS currently uses heat maps as the evaluation process for determining project prioritization. These heat maps weigh factors such as water quality, water supply, flood protection, environmental justice, disadvantaged communities, and urban greening. It is recommended that an additional equity factor be integrated into these heat maps that evaluates historic levels of stormwater/watershed management investments and assigns a higher weight for projects in communities lacking in investments over the past five years. It is also

recommended that the evaluation process consider other planned capital investments across the City that may achieve efficiencies if combined with a potential Measure W-funded project. The heat map factors, including the proposed equity and capital efficiency factors, and any other potential factors, should be discussed by the Working Group with the final project selection criteria approved by the AOC.

### ***Stakeholder Engagement Process***

The City's Measure W program should include a stakeholder engagement process that facilitates community involvement and participation for both the regional and municipal component. The process should permit community input on proposed projects, the conceptual design of projects and site selection.

In addition, the stakeholder engagement process should provide information to communities regarding approved project, including their construction schedule and status. To create this process, BOS should be tasked with developing a thorough strategic outreach plan to engage community stakeholders and interested parties/organizations.

### ***Lapsed Funds***

The County implementation ordinance specifies that awarded but uncommitted funds may be carried over for up to five years from the end of the fiscal year in which those funds are transferred by the County. This provision applies to both municipal and regional funds. Funds must be committed to an eligible expenditure by the end of the fifth year, otherwise they will be deemed lapsed funds. The Transfer Agreements may also include additional requirements. WASCs will allocate lapsed funds to a new project or program that benefits the City or watershed area (Section 16.11, Chapter 16, Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code). At a minimum, the WISP should incorporate metrics that track the status of uncommitted funds on a fiscal year basis so as to minimize the risk of lapsed funds. The Working Group and AOC may want to consider additional safeguards to further address this risk, such as the adoption of a disencumbrance rule similar to how MICLA funds are managed.

## **APPROVAL PROCESS**

The proposed approval process for Measure W is bifurcated to address the separate requirements of the municipal and regional programs.

For the municipal program, as previously mentioned, the first year of the WISP would serve as the CIEP for the Measure W Municipal Program submitted annually by BOS as part of its proposed budget each Fall. It is recommended that the proposed CIEP be approved no later than October 15th of each year so as to provide BOS sufficient time to develop the Measure W municipal program budget for submission.

For the regional program, the City's proposed projects will be identified in the WISP and provide cost information across fiscal years. The AOC should also approve a plan for the submission of the application to the WASCs, such as potentially including support letters or additional information that may improve the project's competitive ranking.



The draft WISP will be reviewed and modified as necessary by the AOC, who will then submit the final recommended WISP to the Mayor and Council. Proposed regional projects must be approved by the Mayor and Council prior to submission to the County. Stakeholder departments with proposed projects will have the responsibility to complete the approval process with their respective boards at the appropriate time.

Projects proposed by DWP, or other proprietary departments, will be subject to approval by their respective Boards pursuant to the Charter. Their project information will be included in the WISP and any reports prepared by BOS for informational purposes.

It is uncertain at this time how frequently, or the regularity of when, the County will issue a Call for Projects (CFP). The first CFP for Fiscal Year 2020-21 closes on December 15, 2019; project evaluation will occur through May 2020; and County Board approval is expected in June 2020. The County has stated that the second CFP for Fiscal Year 2021-22 will close July 31, 2020. In response to the first CFP, BOS and DWP are preparing to submit applications and feasibility studies for five proposed projects. We anticipate that this governance process will be in place with sufficient time to address the second CFP.

Attached is a graphical summary of the approval process (Attachment B).

### ***Transfer Agreements***

The County will require agencies to execute Transfer Agreements (TAs) prior to receipt of funds for the municipal and regional programs. The County has not yet publicly released a draft document, however the implementation ordinance specifies that TAs address such issues as compliance requirements, process and schedule of disbursements, post-construction requirements, and indemnification. It will also prohibit the use of Measure W funds for projects implemented as a result of an enforcement action by the State Water Resources Control Board or Water Quality Board, except for Time Schedule Ordered (TSO) projects included in an approved watershed management program pursuant to the MS4 Permit. It will also require Project Labor Agreements for projects that have an estimated capital cost exceeding \$25 million. Some provisions will be specific to the separate municipal and regional programs (Section 18.09, Chapter 18, Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code).

TAs for approved regional projects will require City approvals as specified by the Charter and Administrative Code. TAs for the municipal program will also require approvals, however this process may be streamlined and incorporated into the budget process.

### **PROPOSITION O**

As previously indicated, the Proposition O program has served as the City's key program focused on the implementation of stormwater/watershed management and water quality projects. However, its AOC is considering options for a "wind down" plan to finalize the program. The AOC notes that the majority of its funds have been expended or committed to projects.

As the City moves forward with the formation of its Measure W program, it should also monitor activities associated with the Proposition O program to ensure administrative efficiencies.

#### **MEASURE W - SAFE, CLEAN WATER PROGRAM SPECIAL FUNDS**

The previous CAO/CLA joint report included a recommendation regarding the establishment of a special fund to adequately and appropriately track revenues and expenditures, prevent commingling of funds and facilitate required reporting to the LACFCD and other oversight entities, for the municipal program and regional program. Based on further information received from the County and discussions with BOS, CAO/CLA now recommends that two special funds be created to separate the municipal program funds and regional project funds. Interest earnings should remain within the respective special funds for programming purposes and unspent funds should remain in the fund at the close of each fiscal year. As the designated lead City agency for Measure W, it would be efficient to designate the BOS as the Fund Administrator for both special funds. The recommendations include a request for the City Attorney to prepare and present ordinances for the creation of the two special funds, this recommendation supersedes the second recommendation adopted by Council as part of the ECCEJ Committee report (C.F. 18-0384-S1).

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Measure W is expected to provide annual funding to the City of approximately \$35 million for the local program and approximately \$50 million for the regional program, dependent on competitive award cycles. Funds are expected to be ongoing and support both capital and O&M expenditures, subject to limitations imposed by the Measure. To the extent that expenditures exceed the imposed limitations in future years, potential General Fund impacts will need to be addressed through the City's annual budget process.

Attachment A - Pages from Section 18.04 of Chapter 18 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code

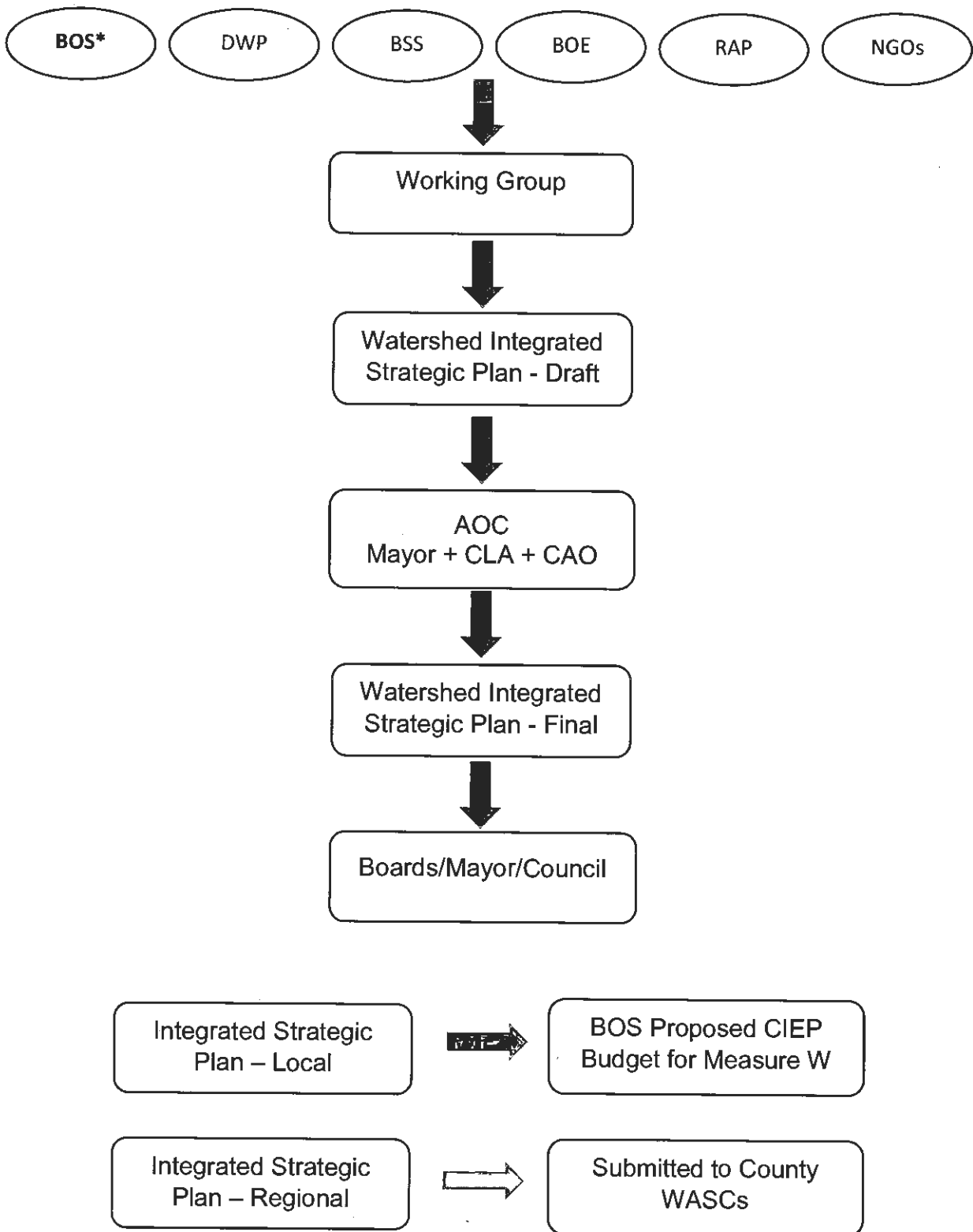
Attachment B - Approval Process Flow Chart

*SMT:REP/RHL:SMB:10200052*

**Attachment A**

The Los Angeles County Safe Clean Water program goals as stated in Section 18.04 of Chapter 18 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code are:

- ☐ Improve water quality and contribute to attainment of water-quality requirements
- ☐ Increase drought preparedness by capturing more Stormwater and/or Urban Runoff to store, clean, reuse and/or recharge groundwater basins
- ☐ 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
- ☐ Leverage other funding sources to maximize SCW Program Goals
- ☐ Invest in infrastructure that provides multiple benefits
- ☐ Prioritize Nature-Based Solutions
- ☐ Provide a spectrum of project sizes from neighborhood to regional scales
- ☐ Encourage innovation and adoption of new technologies and practices
- ☐ Invest in independent scientific research
- ☐ Provide DAC 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
- ☐ Provide Regional Program infrastructure funds benefiting each Municipality in proportion to the funds generated within their jurisdiction, after accounting for allocation of the one hundred and ten (110%) return to DACs, to the extent feasible
- ☐ Implement an iterative planning and evaluation process to ensure adaptive management
- ☐ Promote green jobs and career pathways
- ☐ Ensure ongoing operations and maintenance for Projects



\*BOS to serve as lead agency

## **ORDINANCE NO. 186612**

An ordinance adding Chapters 187 and 188 to Division 5 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code to establish the Measure W – Safe, Clean Water – Regional Projects Special Fund and the Measure W – Safe, Clean Water – Municipal Program Special Fund; and adding Chapter 27 to Division 8 to establish the Measure W – Safe, Clean Water Administrative Oversight Committee.

**WHEREAS**, on November 6, 2018, Los Angeles County voters approved Measure W – The Los Angeles County Safe, Clean Water – Program (Measure W), a parcel tax of 2.5 cents per square foot of impermeable surface to support the costs of stormwater-related programs and projects;

**WHEREAS**, Los Angeles County enacted an ordinance and implementation ordinance regarding Measure W (Chapter 16 and Chapter 18, respectively, of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) Code);

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to these Los Angeles County ordinances, Measure W is administered by the LACFCD and revenues are allocated to three sub-programs – regional, municipal, and administrative – as follows: 50 percent of revenues are allocated for region-wide projects and are awarded on a competitive basis; 40 percent of revenues are allocated to municipalities in the same proportion as the amount of revenues collected within each municipality; and the remaining 10 percent is allocated to the LACFCD for implementation and administration of Measure W;

**WHEREAS**, eligible uses for revenues include projects that provide a water supply and/or water quality benefit and a community investment benefit;

**WHEREAS**, the City seeks to establish the Measure W – Safe, Clean Water – Regional Projects Special Fund administered by the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation for the receipt, retention, and disbursement of funds received from Measure W for regional projects;

**WHEREAS**, the LACFCD will form one watershed area steering committee per watershed (Watershed Area Steering Committee), for a total of nine steering committees each consisting of 17 members, seven from municipalities within the watershed, five agency stakeholders, and five community stakeholders;

**WHEREAS**, the City will appoint its municipal representatives on three Watershed Area Steering Committees and the lead City agency for Measure W;

**WHEREAS**, the City also seeks to establish the Measure W – Safe, Clean Water – Municipal Program Special Fund administered by the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation for the receipt, retention and disbursement of funds received from Measure W for municipal programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the City further seeks to establish the Measure W – Safe Clean Water – Administrative Oversight Committee, consisting of representatives from the Offices of the Mayor, City Administrative Officer, and the Chief Legislative Analyst to oversee the City’s administration of its Measure W program.

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. A new Chapter 187 is added to Division 5 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 187**

**MEASURE W – SAFE, CLEAN WATER – REGIONAL PROJECTS  
SPECIAL FUND**

**Sec. 5.593. Creation and Administration of the Fund.**

(a) There is hereby created and established within the Treasury of the City of Los Angeles a special fund to be known as the “**Measure W – Safe, Clean Water – Regional Projects Special Fund**,” hereinafter referred to as the “**Fund**.”

(b) The purpose of the Fund shall be for the receipt, retention, and disbursement of monies received from the Los Angeles County Safe, Clean Water Program for regional projects (Safe, Clean Water Program for Regional Projects). The monies placed in the Fund shall be used for regional projects pursuant to the Safe, Clean Water Program for Regional Projects.

(c) The Fund shall be administered by the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation (Fund Administrator).

(d) Expenditures from the Fund shall be made by the Fund Administrator solely to fund activities related to the purpose of the Fund and in accordance with the Safe, Clean Water Program.

(e) At the close of each fiscal year, monies not expended from the Fund, or any account within the Fund, shall remain in the Fund and shall not revert to the Reserve Fund in accordance with Charter Section 344.

(f) The Fund Administrator shall prepare and present to the City Council an annual report identifying all receipts into and all expenditures out of the Fund; the report shall also identify the purpose of the expenditures. Each report shall cover a fiscal year and shall be submitted within 90 days after the close of that fiscal year.

(g) The Fund shall be interest bearing. Interest and any other earnings attributable to monies in the Fund shall be credited to the Fund and devoted to the purposes of the Fund.

(h) Municipal seat representatives of the City of Los Angeles in the applicable Watershed Area Steering Committees of the Safe, Clean Water Program, shall be as follows:

1. For the Central Santa Monica Bay Steering Committee, the Mayor, Council President, and Chair of the City Council's Energy, Climate Change and Environmental Justice (ECCEJ) Committee, or any successor committee, shall each appoint one municipal seat representative and alternate consistent with the Safe, Clean Water Program requirements for a term of three years;

2. For the Upper Los Angeles River Steering Committee, the Mayor, Council President, and Chair of the Council's ECCEJ Committee, or any successor committee, shall each appoint one municipal seat representative and alternate consistent with the Safe, Clean Water Program requirements for a term of three years;

3. For the South Santa Monica Bay Steering Committee, the Mayor shall appoint one municipal seat representative and alternate consistent with Safe, Clean Water Program requirements for a term of three years; and

4. The City's lead agency to work with Los Angeles County in support of Watershed Area Steering Committee activities associated with the Central Santa Monica Bay, Upper Los Angeles River, and South Santa Monica Bay watersheds shall be the Fund Administrator.

Sec. 2. A new Chapter 188 is added to Division 5 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code to read as follows:

## **CHAPTER 188**

### **MEASURE W – SAFE, CLEAN WATER – MUNICIPAL PROGRAM SPECIAL FUND**

#### **Sec. 5.594. Creation and Administration of the Fund.**

(a) There is hereby created and established within the Treasury of the City of Los Angeles a special fund to be known as the **"Measure W – Safe, Clean Water – Municipal Program Special Fund,"** hereinafter referred to as the **"Fund."**

(b) The purpose of the Fund shall be for the receipt, retention, and disbursement of monies received from the Los Angeles County Safe, Clean Water Municipal Program (Safe, Clean Water Municipal Program). The monies placed in the

Fund shall be used for municipal programs pursuant to the Safe, Clean Water Municipal Program.

(c) The Fund shall be administered by the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation (Fund Administrator).

(d) Expenditures from the Fund shall be made by the Fund Administrator solely to fund activities related to the purpose of the Fund and in accordance with the Safe, Clean Water Municipal Program.

(e) At the close of each fiscal year, monies not expended from the Fund, or any account within the Fund, shall remain in the Fund and shall not revert to the Reserve Fund in accordance with Charter Section 344.

(f) The Fund Administrator shall prepare and present to the City Council an annual report identifying all receipts into and all expenditures out of the Fund, as well as the purpose of expenditures. Each report shall cover a fiscal year and shall be submitted within 90 days after the close of that fiscal year.

(g) The Fund shall be interest bearing. Interest and any other earnings attributable to monies in the Fund shall be credited to the Fund and devoted to the purposes of the Fund.

Sec. 3. A new Chapter 27 is added to Division 8 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code to read as follows:

## **CHAPTER 27**

### **MEASURE W – SAFE, CLEAN WATER – ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

#### **Sec. 8.328. Creation.**

The City Council hereby creates and designates the Measure W – Safe, Clean Water – Administrative Oversight Committee (Administrative Oversight Committee) to oversee all City projects and programs funded with proceeds from the ballot measure adopted by the Los Angeles County voters in 2018 (Measure W – The Los Angeles County Safe, Clean Water – Program, referred to as the Measure W Program). Any actions or recommendations by the Administrative Oversight Committee shall be subject to approval by the City Council and the Mayor.

#### **Sec. 8.328.1. Membership.**

The Administrative Oversight Committee shall consist of the Mayor; the City Administrative Officer, who shall be the chairperson; and the Chief Legislative Analyst. Each of the members may designate someone to act on the member's behalf.



**Sec. 8.328.2. Duties and Responsibilities.**

The Administrative Oversight Committee shall ensure proper administration of the Measure W Program. The duties and responsibilities of the Administrative Oversight Committee shall include, but not be limited to:

- (a) Develop and review criteria for the selection of projects as proposed by City departments;
- (b) Review project proposals to determine if they meet adopted project criteria;
- (c) Oversee, direct, and monitor the program and projects to ensure timely completion within approved schedules and budgets;
- (d) Monitor utilization and cost of City personnel, personal services contracts, expense, and equipment for the projects;
- (e) Review Memoranda of Agreement or Understanding between City departments and outside agencies concerning the program;
- (f) Resolve any issues of concern between the departments to address program and project needs; and
- (g) Take any other action as may be necessary to oversee the program and projects.

Sec. 4. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

Approved as to Form and Legality

MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney

By   
ADENA M. HOPENSTAND  
Deputy City Attorney

Date 1/23/20


File No. 18-0384-S1

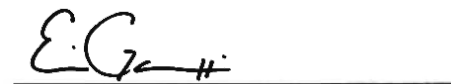
M:\GENERAL COUNSEL DIVISION\ORDINANCES AND REPORTS\ORDINANCES - FINAL YELLOW\Draft Measure W Special Fund Ordinance LAAC 5.591, 5.592 and AOC in LAAC 8.328.docx

The Clerk of the City of Los Angeles hereby certifies that the foregoing ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR





Ordinance Passed 05/05/2020

Approved 05/11/2020

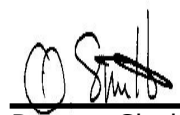
Ordinance Effective Date: 06/24/2020  
Council File No.: 18-0384-S1

# DECLARATION OF POSTING ORDINANCE

I, **Ottavia Smith** state as follows: I am, and was at all times hereinafter mentioned, a resident of the State of California, over the age of eighteen years, and a Deputy City Clerk of the City of Los Angeles, California.

**Ordinance No.** **186612** - a copy of which is hereto attached, was finally adopted by the Los Angeles City Council on **05/05/2020**, and under the direction of said City Council and the City Clerk, pursuant to Section 251 of the Charter of the City of Los Angeles and Ordinance No. 172959, I conspicuously posted a true copy of said ordinance at each of the three public places located in the City of Los Angeles, California, as follows: 1) one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; 2) one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; 3) one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records beginning on **05/14/2020** and will be continuously posted for ten or more days.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.



Deputy Clerk

Date: 05/14/2020

Ordinance Effective Date: 06/24/2020

Council File No.: 18-0384-S1



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
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<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
P.O. BOX 1460  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO FILE

# ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

June 09, 2020

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

36 June 9, 2020

CELIA ZAVALA  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**WATER RESOURCES CORE SERVICE AREA  
DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY FOR TRANSFER AGREEMENTS  
AND RETAINMENT OF INTEREST GENERATED  
FROM SAFE, CLEAN WATER PROGRAM FUNDS  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

Public Works is seeking Board approval of a standard template agreement and addendum to transfer funding under the Safe, Clean Water Program and delegate authority to the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to enter into these transfer agreements, and to authorize the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to retain interest-earnings generated from all Safe, Clean Water Program Funds.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:**

1. Find that the proposed actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this letter and the record of the Los Angeles Region Safe, Clean Water Program.
2. Approve a standard template transfer agreement establishing terms and conditions for the transfer of Safe, Clean Water Program funds to municipalities and Regional Program project developers and recipients, and a standard template addendum to extend Regional Program funding for projects over multiple fiscal years.

3. Delegate authority to the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District or his designee to enter into transfer agreements and addenda with municipalities and Regional Program project developers and recipients of funding through the Safe, Clean Water Program.
4. Delegate authority to the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District or his designee to take the following actions to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act in connection with the exercise of the delegated authority to enter into transfer agreements and addenda when the Los Angeles County Flood Control District is acting as a Responsible Agency: (a) determine whether or not a project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act or within the scope of a previous finding of exemption; (b) review and consider environmental impact reports, mitigated negative declarations, and negative declarations; (c) determine whether or not a project is within the scope of previously certified environmental impact report or previously adopted mitigated negative declaration, or negative declaration; (d) determine whether or not a project described in an environmental impact report, mitigated negative declaration, or negative declaration would have a significant effect on the environment; (e) make findings as required by Section 15091 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations; and (f) adopt a mitigation monitoring program as required by Section 15091 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.
5. Authorize the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to retain interest generated from all Safe, Clean Water Program Funds and to deposit those amounts in the Safe, Clean Water Program District Fund.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this letter and the record of the Los Angeles Region Safe, Clean Water Program.
2. Authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles, to enter into transfer agreements and addenda with the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to receive funds through the Safe, Clean Water Program.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approval of the recommended actions will find that they are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The purpose of the recommended actions is to approve standard template transfer agreements for the Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program Regional Program (Enclosure A), Municipal Program (Enclosure B), and a standard template addendum to the Regional Program transfer agreement (see Exhibit D within Enclosure A); delegate authority to the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and the Director of Public Works, or his designee to enter into transfer agreements and addenda, substantially similar to the standard templates; authorize the Chief Engineer or his designee to take actions to comply with CEQA when the District is acting as a Responsible Agency in connection with entering into transfer agreements and addenda; and authorize the District to retain the interest generated from tax revenues collected pursuant to the SCW Program and deposit those amounts in the SCW Program's District Program fund.

On November 6, 2018, Measure W (the SCW Program ballot measure) was successfully passed by

the voters. With the approval of the SCW Program, the first annual parcel tax is being collected for Fiscal Year 2019-20.

SCW Program funds will be distributed as follows:

- 10 percent to the District to fund District wide education programs, District wide projects, as well as administration of the program.
- 40 percent to the municipalities within the District. The transfer agreements for the Municipal Program will disburse funds to the municipalities in proportion to the tax collected in each jurisdiction on an annual basis. The transfer agreements for the Municipal Program will expire every 4 years, and funds received are to be used for implementation, operations and maintenance, and administration of eligible projects and programs. If substantial changes to the template agreements are determined to be appropriate, Public Works will return to the Board for approval of any such changes.
- 50 percent to the nine watershed areas to fund regional watershed-based multi-benefit projects to be implemented by project developers, and to provide technical resources, and conduct scientific studies.

The transfer agreements for the Regional Program will generally cover all phases of a project, from planning and design, to construction, operation, and maintenance through the execution of an addenda to the Transfer Agreement for each fiscal year. The ongoing agreements are subject to the project's continued inclusion in Board approved Stormwater Investment Plans for subsequent fiscal years and routine reports to reflect progress and satisfaction of all agreement provisions. The proposed delegation of authority to take actions to comply with the CEQA will enable the Chief Engineer to conduct the necessary environmental review at the appropriate time in the development process of each project.

Approval of the recommended actions will assist the District and County to enter into transfer agreements more quickly, thereby facilitating the distribution of SCW Program funds to the municipalities, project developers, or other recipients of SCW Program funds. These actions will continue to expand on the delegated authority of the Chief Engineer of the District and the Director of Public Works to reduce the number of instances the Board of Supervisors will be required to act regarding routine transactions involving the disbursement of funds. Use of delegated authority expanded by the approval of these recommendations will be reported to the Board in SCW Program annual reports.

In addition, the recommended actions will also authorize the District to retain interest-earnings generated from all SCW Program funds in the District Program. The District Code Section 16.13 requires holding funds in interest bearing accounts. As such, it is the expectation of the voting public that interest retention is included in the scope of the program. Additionally, retention of interest will partially offset the revenue loss due to inflation and other credits, exemptions, and appeals. This would add financial stability over the lifetime of the fund. The parcel tax does not increase and by retention of interest will maximize long term potential of the overall program implementation.

On March 9, 2020, the District initiated a 30-day public review of the draft fund transfer agreement templates and held two online open house review sessions for interested parties on March 31, 2020, and April 2, 2020. All public comments received prior to the close of the public review on April 7, 2020, were considered for incorporation into the transfer agreement templates.

## **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

These recommendations support the County Strategic Plan: Strategy II.3, Make Environmental Sustainability our Daily Reality Objective II.3.1, Improve Water Quality, Reduce Water Consumption, and Increase Water Supplies Objective II.3.2, Foster a Cleaner, More Efficient, and More Resilient Energy System Objective II.3.3, Address the Serious Threat of Global Climate Change. The recommended actions will strengthen the County's capacity to improve water quality and increase water supplies, effectively prepare for emergent environmental and natural hazards, and address the threat of climate change.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There will be no impact to the County General Fund and Flood Fund.

The SCW Program is estimated to generate up to \$285M annually in special tax revenues collected pursuant to Measure W, which was approved by voters in the November 2018 election. The interest generated from all SCW Program funds will be retained by the District in B42-Measure W-SCW District Program Administration Fund.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

On July 17, 2018, following a very extensive stakeholder input process, the Board approved a resolution calling for and giving notice of an election on a measure to impose a special tax upon parcels located within the District, to fund projects and programs to increase stormwater capture and reduce stormwater and urban runoff pollution, on November 6, 2018. The resolution also included an ordinance amending the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code (Code) by adding Chapter 16 establishing the SCW Program.

With the approval of Measure W in the November 6, 2018 election, the first annual parcel tax is being collected on the tax bills for Fiscal Year 2019-20. Following the tax collection, revenues will be allocated to the District, Municipal, and Regional Programs and is required to be distributed to the appropriate municipalities, project developers, or other recipients of SCW Program funds.

On August 6, 2019, the Board, after consultation with local and regional agencies, organizations, and stakeholders, adopted an ordinance to implement the SCW Program by adding Chapter 18 of the Code.

Pursuant to Section 16.05.A.1 of the Code, the District and municipalities, project developers, and/or other recipients of SCW Program funds must enter into agreements to transfer and accept the funds.

Public Works is requesting authority to take actions to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act in connection with the exercise of the delegated authority to enter into transfer agreements and addenda, when Los Angeles County Flood Control District is acting as a Responsible Agency under CEQA. These actions would include, among other things, the review of CEQA documents and findings prepared by other public agencies to determine the environmental impacts of the proposed projects. These environmental impacts would be taken into consideration by Public Works and the project proponents in deciding whether or how to proceed with the projects and the associated Transfer Agreements or addenda. Upon approval of the recommended actions, County Counsel will work with Public Works to develop a standard process to perform the CEQA analyses at the appropriate stage of the project and memorialize the resulting findings, including but

not limited to the preparation of written documentation to be kept in the file of each project and the filing of notices of exemption or determination be as appropriate.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

The recommended actions are not subject to the CEQA because they are activities that are excluded from the definition of a project by Section 21065 of the Public Resources Code and Section 15378(b) of the State CEQA Guidelines. The recommended actions are organizational or administrative activities of government, which will not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

There will be no negative impact on current County services.

### **CONCLUSION**

Please return an adopted copy of this letter to Public Works, Stormwater Planning Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Pestrella". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" and last name "Pestrella" clearly distinguishable.

MARK PESTRELLA

Director

MP:KAL:bm

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office (Chia-Ann Yen)  
County Counsel (Mark Yanai)  
Executive Office



**-DRAFT TEMPLATE-**  
**TRANSFER AGREEMENT BETWEEN**  
**THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT**  
**AND (INSERT PROJECT DEVELOPER)**  
**AGREEMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_**  
**SAFE, CLEAN WATER PROGRAM – REGIONAL PROGRAM**

This Transfer Agreement, hereinafter referred to as "Agreement," is entered into as of \_\_\_\_\_ by and between the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, hereinafter referred to as "District," and \_\_\_\_\_ (*Project Developer/Scientific Studies Applicant Entity*), hereinafter referred to as "Recipient."

**WHEREAS**, District, pursuant to the Los Angeles Region Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program ordinance (Chapter 16 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code) and the SCW Program Implementation Ordinance (Chapter 18 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code), administers the SCW Program for the purpose of funding Projects and Programs to increase stormwater and urban runoff capture and reduce stormwater and urban runoff pollution in the District;

**WHEREAS**, Recipient proposes to implement a Funded Activity (as hereafter defined) that is eligible for funding under the SCW Program;

**WHEREAS**, the Funded Activity is included in a Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) that has been approved by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors;

**WHEREAS**, the Board approved a standard template Agreement as required by and in accordance with Section 18.09 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the promises, mutual representations, covenants and agreements in this Agreement, the District and the Recipient, each binding itself, its successors and assigns, do mutually promise, covenant, and agree as follows:

**I. DEFINITIONS**

The definitions set forth in Sections 16.03 and 18.02 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code shall apply to this Agreement. In addition, the following definitions shall also apply:

"Activity Completion" means that the Funded Activity is complete to the reasonable satisfaction of the District based on review of reports and other documentation as deemed appropriate by the District. If the Funded Activity is an Infrastructure Program Project on District Right-of-Way a separate use and maintenance agreement is required.

"Activity Costs" means the total costs necessary to achieve Activity Completion. The Activity Costs for the Funded Activity are described in Exhibit A.

"Agreement" means this Transfer Agreement, including all exhibits and attachments hereto.

“Budget Plan” means a Recipient’s plan for funding Activity Completion, including a description of all sources of funds for Activity Costs and a description of how the SCW Program Contribution will be allocated among the tasks identified in the Scope of Work within each fiscal year. Recipient’s Budget Plan is described in Exhibit A.

“Days” means calendar days unless otherwise expressly indicated.

“Fiscal Year” means the period of twelve (12) months terminating on June 30 of any year.

“Funded Activity” means the Infrastructure Program Project, or Scientific Study described in Exhibit A – Scope of Work, including the Stakeholder and Community Outreach Plan and all other tasks and activities described in Exhibit A.

“Safe Clean Water (SCW) Program Contribution” means the portion of the Activity Costs to be paid for with Regional Program funds provided by the District from the SCW Program as described in the Budget Plan.

“Year” means calendar year unless otherwise expressly indicated.

## II. PARTY CONTACTS

The District and the Recipient designate the following individuals as the primary points of contact and communication regarding the Funded Activity and the administration and implementation of this Agreement.

Los Angeles County Flood Control District		Recipient:	
Name:	(Program Manager)	Name:	(Project Manager)
Address:		Address:	
Phone:		Phone:	
Email:		Email:	

Either party to this Agreement may change the individual identified above by providing written notice of the change to the other party.

## III. EXHIBITS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The following exhibits to this Agreement, including any amendments and supplements hereto, are hereby incorporated herein and made a part of this Agreement:

EXHIBIT A – SCOPE OF WORK

EXHIBIT B – GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

EXHIBIT C – SPECIAL CONDITIONS

EXHIBIT D – ADDENDUM TO AGREEMENT

EXHIBIT E – NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS (Best Management Practices)

EXHIBIT F – OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

#### **IV. ACTIVITY COMPLETION**

- A. The Recipient shall implement and complete the Funded Activity in accordance with the work schedule described in Exhibit A,
- B. The Recipient shall comply with the terms and conditions in Exhibits A, B, C, D, E, and F of this Agreement, and all applicable provisions of Chapters 16 and 18 of the Code.
- C. The Recipient shall fulfill all assurances, declarations, representations, and commitments made by the Recipient in its application for SCW Program Contributions, accompanying documents, and communications filed in support of its application for SCW Program Contributions.

#### **V. SCW PROGRAM FUNDING FOR FUNDED ACTIVITY**

- A. The District shall disburse the SCW Program Contribution for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year as described in the corresponding approved Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) within 45-days of receipt of the signed executed Agreement.
- B. If the Funded Activity is included in a duly approved SIP for a subsequent Fiscal Year, the parties shall enter into an addendum to this Agreement, in the form attached as Exhibit D, regarding the disbursement of the SCW Program Contribution for that subsequent Fiscal Year. The Recipient expressly acknowledges and agrees that the District is not obligated to disburse any SCW Program Contributions to Recipient for any Fiscal Year beyond the 2020-21 Fiscal Year unless the Funded Activity is included in a duly approved SIP for a subsequent Fiscal Year, the Recipient has complied with the provisions related to the California Environmental Quality Act in Exhibit C, and the parties have duly executed an addendum to this Agreement for that Fiscal Year.
- C. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, no disbursement shall be made at any time or in any manner that is in violation of or in conflict with federal, state, County laws, policies, or regulations.
- D. All disbursements shall be subject to and be made in accordance with the terms and conditions in this Agreement and Chapters 16 and 18 of the Code.
- E. The Recipient shall submit the scope of work described in Exhibit A 45-days after execution of this Agreement. If the Funded Activity is included in a duly approved SIP for a subsequent Fiscal Year, subsequent Exhibit A – Scope of Work will be required 45-days after execution of the addendum to this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement has been executed by the parties hereto.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Recipient):

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Title:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Title:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **EXHIBIT A – SCOPE OF WORK**

### **A-1. Budget Plan**

The Recipient shall submit a detailed Budget Plan for all eligible expenditures (those incurred after November 7, 2018) for all phases and tasks included in the work schedule for the Funded Activity. The Recipient shall include a summary of leveraged funds and in-kind services for the Funded Activity. For a Funded Activity that will be performed over more than one Fiscal Year, the Budget Plan must clearly identify the amount of SCW Program Contribution for each Fiscal Year.

### **A-2. Consistent with SCW Program Goals**

By signing this Agreement, the Recipient shall provide certification that the Budget Plan is consistent with SCW Program Goals as described in Chapter 18.04 of the Code.

The Recipient shall include a summary of how the identified SCW Program Goals are expected to be achieved through the Funded Activity, including quantitative targets and corresponding metrics for subsequent reporting of all applicable parameters.

### **A-3. Estimated Reasonable Total Activity Cost**

The Recipient shall submit a detailed estimate total Activity Cost for all phases and tasks included in the work schedule for the Funded Activity.

### **A-4. Funded Activity Description and Scope of Work**

The Recipient shall provide a general description of the Funded Activity and a detailed scope of work. The scope of work may include:

1. Project Management, including required reporting
2. General Compliance Requirements/Project Effectiveness and Performance
3. Permitting and Environmental Compliance
4. Planning, Design, and Engineering
5. Stakeholder and Community Outreach/Engagement Activities
6. Right of Way Acquisition
7. Construction and Implementation
8. Operation and Maintenance

#### A-5. Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Plan

Where the Funded Activity is an Infrastructure Program Project, the Recipient shall submit a plan describing the activities that are expected to be necessary to perform O&M for the Infrastructure Program Project to ensure it remains in good working order throughout the useful life of the Infrastructure Program Project using SCW Program Contributions. The O&M plan shall address the activities described in Exhibit F to the greatest extent feasible and in as much detail as possible based on the completeness of the Project design and construction. The Recipient shall update the O&M plan in connection with each Addenda until completion of the Infrastructure Program Project and the submittal of a final O&M plan.

The Recipient shall specifically identify the entity that will be performing the O&M for the lifetime of the Project. If this is not the Recipient, the Recipient shall submit a letter of commitment from the entity that will be performing the O&M (See Exhibit F, for example activities). The letter of commitment shall include details demonstrating how the provider is qualified and capable of providing the necessary ongoing O&M services.

The Recipient may elect to request the local Municipality or District to provide O&M for the useful life of the Infrastructure Program Project using SCW Program Contributions. If the Recipient does not elect to seek the District's services or if the District is unable to provide the services as requested, the Recipient shall include in the letter of commitment reference to the above details demonstrating how the provider is qualified and capable of providing the necessary ongoing O&M services.

#### A-6. Post-Construction Monitoring

Where the Funded Activity is an Infrastructure Program Project, stormwater quality monitoring data shall be collected and reported in a manner consistent with the SWRCB database, the CEDEN for a period of three years. The Recipient shall submit a post-construction monitoring plan when the design phase is complete. The post-construction monitoring plan will evaluate the effectiveness of stormwater treatment facilities and include the project description; quality objectives; sampling design; sampling procedures; quality control; data management verification, and reporting; data quality assessment; and data analysis procedures.

#### A-7. Sustainability Rating

Where the Funded Activity is an Infrastructure Program Project that has applied for Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure (ISI) verification, the Recipient shall submit the final score and Envision award level.

#### A-8. Stakeholder and Community Outreach/Engagement Plan

The Recipient shall submit a Stakeholder and Community Outreach/Engagement Plan for Infrastructure Program Projects and include a discussion of how local NGOs or CBOs will be involved, if applicable, and if not, why. Additional outreach/engagement

activities, even if funded by other sources, should be referenced to provide an overview of anticipated overall project approach. The plan shall, at a minimum include:

1. Community outreach activities to provide information to residents and information about upcoming meetings or other engagement activity event is scheduled. Outreach methods used should be appropriate in scale and type to the community being served. Outreach methods include but are not limited to: Online Media Outreach (email blasts, social media, publication on a website) Local Media Outreach (newsletters, local and regional newspapers, and local radio and television) and/or Grassroots Outreach (door-to-door canvassing, phone banking, surveys and focus groups, and distribution of flyers or other printed materials). The District will support outreach efforts through web-based platforms if requested at least four weeks prior to the requested publish date. The District should be included in all social media outreach and notified of all meetings and other engagement events.
2. Community engagement activities solicit, address and seek input from community members for Funded Activities. These events may occur as part of any public meeting with multiple agenda items such as council, commission or committee meetings where public input is invited; or at festivals, fairs, or open houses where a table or booth may be set up.
3. Stakeholder and Community Outreach/Engagement Plan requirements:

Stakeholder and Community Outreach/Engagement Plan activities should occur at the onset of the project, during the design phase, and during construction.

Infrastructure Program Project Funds	Required Activity 1	Required Activity 2
Up to \$2 M	Outreach or Engagement	
Up to \$10 M	Outreach	≥1 Engagement
Over \$10 M	Outreach	≥ 2 Engagements

4. If the Funded Activity is for the O&M of an Infrastructure Program Project Stakeholder and Community Outreach/Engagement Plan activities should occur biennially to remind communities of the SCW Program Contribution.
5. Activities and measures to mitigate against displacement and gentrification. This includes, as applicable, an acknowledgment that the Funded Activity will be fully subject to and comply with any County-wide displacement policies as well as with any specific anti-displacement requirements associated with other funding sources.

#### A-9. Tracking Infrastructure Program Project Benefits

The Recipient shall submit an overview of the benefits achieved upon the Activity Completion. SOW shall include quantitative targets and corresponding metrics for subsequent reporting of all applicable parameters.

#### A-10. Work Schedule and Completion Date

The Recipient shall submit a detailed schedule, including start and completion dates for all phases and tasks of the scope of work for the Funded Activity. For Funded Activities that will be performed over more than one Fiscal Year, the work schedule must clearly identify the phases and tasks that will be performed in each Fiscal Year.



## **EXHIBIT B – GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **B-1. Accounting and Deposit of Funding Disbursement**

1. SCW Program Contributions distributed to the Recipient shall be held in a separate interest-bearing account and shall not be combined with other funds. Interest earned from each account shall be used by the Recipient only for eligible expenditures consistent with the requirements of the SCW Program.
2. The Recipient shall not be entitled to interest earned on undisbursed SCW Program Contributions; interest earned prior to disbursement is property of the District.
3. The Recipient shall operate in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).
4. The Recipient shall be strictly accountable for all funds, receipts, and disbursements related to all SCW Program Contributions made to the Recipient.

### **B-2. Acknowledgement of Credit and Signage**

The Recipient shall include appropriate acknowledgement of credit to the District for its support when promoting the Funded Activity or using any data and/or information developed under this Agreement. When the Funded Activity involves the construction phase of an Infrastructure Program Project, signage shall be posted in a prominent location at Project site(s) or at the Recipients headquarters and shall include the Safe, Clean Water Program color logo and the following disclosure statement: "Funding for this project has been provided in full or in part from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's Safe, Clean Water Program." At a minimum the sign shall be 2' x 3' in size. The Recipient shall also include in each of its contracts for work under this Agreement a provision that incorporates the requirements stated within this paragraph.

When the Funded Activity involves a scientific study, the Recipient shall include the following statement in the study report: "Funding for this study has been provided in full or in part from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's Safe, Clean Water Program." The Recipient shall also include in each of its contracts for work under this Agreement a provision that incorporates the requirements stated within this paragraph.

### **B-3. Acquisition of Real Property – Covenant**

Any real property acquired in whole or in part with SCW Program funds shall be used for Projects and Programs that are consistent with the SCW Program Goals and with the provisions of Chapter 16 and 18 of the Code.

Any Recipient that acquires the fee title to real property using, in whole or in part, SCW Program funds shall record a document in the office of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk containing a covenant not to sell or otherwise convey the real property without the

prior express written consent of the District, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

#### B-4. Amendment

Except as provided in Section II of the Agreement, no amendment or variation of the terms of this Agreement shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by the parties. No oral or written understanding or agreement not incorporated in this Agreement is binding on any of the parties.

#### B-5. Assignment

The Recipient will not assign this Agreement without the prior consent of the District.

#### B-6. Audit and Recordkeeping

1. The Recipient shall retain for a period of seven (7) years after Activity Completion, all records necessary in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles to determine the amounts expended, and eligibility of Projects implemented using SCW Program Contributions. The Recipient, upon demand by authorized representatives of the District, shall make such records available for examination and review or audit by the District or its authorized representatives. Records shall include accounting records, written policies and procedures, contract files, original estimates, correspondence, change order files, including documentation covering negotiated settlements, invoices, and any other supporting evidence deemed necessary to substantiate charges related to SCW Program Contributions and expenditures.
2. The Recipient is responsible for obtaining an independent audit to determine Funded Activity compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement and all requirements applicable to the Recipient contained in chapters 16 and 18 of the Code promptly upon Activity Completion. For a Funded Activity that will be performed over the course of a period exceeding three years, the District may also perform an interim independent audit every three (3) years until Activity Completion. Audits shall be funded with Regional Program funds.
3. Recipient shall file a copy of the Activity Completion audit report with the District by the end of the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) month from Activity Completion. Recipient shall file a copy of all interim audit reports by the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) month from the end of each three (3) year period. Audit reports shall be posted on the District's publicly accessible website.

<b>End-of-Activity</b>		<b>Every Third Fiscal Year</b>		
<b><u>Projected End Date</u></b>	<b><u>Audit Report Due to District</u></b>	<b><u>SIP Fiscal Year</u></b>	<b><u>Audit Period</u></b>	<b><u>Audit Report Due to District</u></b>
1/15/2022	No later than 10/31/2022	2020-21	7/1/2020 to 6/30/2023	No later than 3/31/2024

4. Upon reasonable advanced request, the Recipient shall permit the Chief Engineer, at the District's cost and expense, to examine the Funded Activity. The Recipient shall permit the authorized District representative, including the Auditor-Controller, at the District's cost and expense, to examine, review, audit, and transcribe any and all audit reports, other reports, books, accounts, papers, maps, and other records that relate to the Funded Activity.
5. Expenditures determined by an audit to be in violation of any provision of Chapters 16 or 18 of the Code, or of this Agreement, shall be subject to the enforcement and remedy provisions of Section 18.14 of the Code.

If at any time the Funded Activity cannot fulfill the provisions outlined in Exhibit A, the accounts and books of the Recipient may be reviewed or audited by the District.

#### B-7. Availability of Funds

District's obligation to disburse the SCW Program Contribution is contingent upon the availability of sufficient funds to permit the disbursements provided for herein. If sufficient funds are not available for any reason including, but not limited to, failure to fund allocations necessary for disbursement of the SCW Program Contribution, the District shall not be obligated to make any disbursements to the Recipient under this Agreement. This provision shall be construed as a condition precedent to the obligation of the District to make any disbursements under this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to provide the Recipient with a right of priority for disbursement over any other recipient. If any disbursements due the Recipient under this Agreement are deferred because sufficient funds are unavailable, it is the intention of the District that such disbursement will be made to the Recipient when sufficient funds do become available, but this intention is not binding. If this Agreement's funding for any fiscal year is reduced or deleted by order of the Board, the District shall have the option to either cancel this Agreement with no liability occurring to the District or offer an amendment to the Recipient to reflect the reduced amount.

1. The Recipient will not seek disbursement of any Activity Costs that will be disbursed or reimbursed from other funding sources.
2. The Recipient agrees that it will not request a disbursement unless that cost is allowable, reasonable, and allocable.

#### B-8. Choice of Law

The laws of the State of California govern this Agreement.

#### B-9. Claims

Any claim of the Recipient is limited to the rights, remedies, and claims procedures provided to the Recipient under this Agreement. Recipient expenditures of a SCW Program Contribution that involves the District shall utilize a separate and specific agreement to that Project that includes appropriate indemnification superseding that in this Agreement.

#### B-10. Completion of Funded Activity by the Recipient

The Recipient agrees to pay any and all Activity Costs in excess of the SCW Program Contribution necessary for Activity Completion. The Recipient expressly acknowledges and agrees that if the SCW Program Contribution is not sufficient to pay the Activity Costs in full, the Recipient shall nonetheless complete the Funded Activity and pay that portion of the Activity Costs in excess of the SCW Program Contribution, subject to the provisions of Exhibit C, as applicable.

#### B-11. Compliance with Law, Regulations, etc.

The Recipient shall, at all times, comply with and require its contractors and subcontractors to comply with all applicable County, state and federal laws, rules, guidelines, regulations, and requirements. Without limitation of the foregoing, the Recipient agrees that, to the extent applicable, the Recipient shall comply with the Code.

#### B-12. Competitive Bidding and Procurements

The Recipient's contracts with other entities for the acquisition of goods and services and construction of public works with SCW Program Contributions must be in writing and shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations regarding the securing of competitive bids and undertaking competitive negotiations. If the Recipient does not have a written policy to award contracts through a competitive bidding or sole source process, the State Contracting Manual rules must be followed and are available at: <https://www.dgs.ca.gov/OLS/Resources/Page-Content/Office-of-Legal-Services-Resources-List-Folder/State-Contracting#@ViewBag.JumpTo>

#### B-13. Continuous Use of Funded Activity; Lease or Disposal of Funded Activity

Where the Funded Activity involves an Infrastructure Program Project, the Recipient shall not abandon, substantially discontinue use of, lease, or dispose of all or a significant part or portion of the Funded Activity during the useful life of 30 years of the Funded Activity without prior written approval of the District. Such approval may be conditioned as determined to be appropriate by the District, including a condition requiring repayment of pro rata amount of all disbursed SCW Program Contributions together with interest on

said amount accruing from the date of abandonment, substantial discontinuance, lease or disposal of the Project.

#### B-14. Default Provisions

The Recipient will be in default under this Agreement under any of the following circumstances:

1. The Recipient has made or makes any false warranty, representation, or statement with respect to this Agreement, any addendum or the application filed to obtain this Agreement;
2. The Recipient materially breaches this Agreement or any addendum, including but not limited to:
  - a. Fails to operate or maintain Project in accordance with this Agreement;
  - b. Fails to submit timely Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports.
  - c. Fails to remain in Good Standing (see Section B-34, below).
  - d. The Recipient fails to maintain reasonable progress toward SCW Program Goals as described in Section 18.04 of the Code, following an opportunity to cure.
  - e. The Recipient fails to maintain reasonable progress toward Project Completion.
  - f. Use of SCW Program Contributions for ineligible expenses and/or activities not consistent with the Agreement.
  - g. Inappropriate use of SCW Program Contributions, as deemed by the District

Should an event of default occur, the District shall provide a notice of default to the Recipient and shall give the Recipient at least ten calendar days or such longer period as the District, in its reasonable discretion, may authorize, to cure the default from the date the notice is sent via first-class mail to the Recipient. If the Recipient fails to cure the default within the time prescribed by the District, the District may do any of the following:

1. Declare the SCW Program Contribution be immediately repaid, with interest, which shall be equal to the State of California general obligation bond interest rate in effect at the time of the default.
2. Terminate any obligation to make future payments to the Recipient.
3. Terminate the Agreement.

4. Take any other action that it deems necessary to protect its interests.

The Recipient shall not be in default under this Agreement as a result of any breach of this Agreement by the Recipient that is the direct result of the District's failure to make a SCW Program Contribution for any Fiscal Year. Under these circumstances the District may, in its reasonable discretion, terminate this Agreement by providing the Recipient with a written notice of termination. If this Agreement is terminated pursuant to this paragraph, the parties shall thereafter have no further obligations to each other in connection with the Funded Activity except that the Recipient's indemnification obligations shall survive the termination of this Agreement and continue in full force and effect.

B-15. Disputes

Should a dispute arise between the parties, the party asserting the dispute will notify the other parties in writing of the dispute. The parties will then meet and confer within 21 calendar days of the notice in a good faith attempt to resolve the dispute.

If the matter has not been resolved through the process set forth in the preceding paragraph, any party may initiate mediation of the dispute. Mediation will be before a retired judge or mediation service mutually agreeable to the parties. All costs of the mediation, including mediator fees, will be paid one-half by the District and one-half by the Recipient. SCW Program Contributions shall not be used to pay for any costs of the mediation.

The parties will attempt to resolve any dispute through the process set forth above before filing any action relating to the dispute in any court of law.

B-16. Final Inspection and Certification of Registered Professional

Where the Funded Activity is an Infrastructure Program Project, upon completion of the design phase and before construction, the Recipient shall provide certification by a California Registered Professional (i.e., Professional Civil Engineer, Engineering Geologist) that the design has been completed.

Where the Funded Activity is an Infrastructure Program Project, upon completion of the Project, the Recipient shall provide for a final inspection and certification by a California Registered Professional (i.e., Professional Civil Engineer, Engineering Geologist), that the Project has been completed in accordance with submitted final plans and specifications and any modifications thereto and in accordance with this Agreement.

B-17. Force Majeure.

In the event that Recipient is delayed or hindered from the performance of any act required hereunder by reason of strikes, lockouts, labor troubles, inability to procure materials not related to the price thereof, riots, insurrection, war, or other reasons of a like nature beyond the control of the Recipient, then performance of such acts shall be

excused for the period of the delay, and the period for the performance of any such act shall be extended for a period equivalent to the period of such delay.

#### B-18. Funded Activity Access

When the Funded Activity involves an Infrastructure Program Project the Recipient shall, upon receipt of reasonable advance notice from the District, ensure that the District or any authorized representative of the foregoing, will have safe and suitable access to the site of the Funded Activity at all reasonable times through Activity Completion.

#### B-19. Funding Considerations and Exclusions

1. All expenditures of the SCW Program Contribution by Recipient must comply with the provisions of Chapters 16 and 18 of the Code, including but not limited to the provisions regarding eligible expenditures contained in Section 16.05.A.2 and the provision regarding ineligible expenditures contained in Section 16.05.A.3.
2. SCW Program Contributions shall not be used in connection with any Funded Activity implemented as an Enhanced Compliance Action ("ECA") and/or Supplemental Environmental Project ("SEP") as defined by State Water Resources Control Board Office of Enforcement written policies, or any other Funded Activity implemented pursuant to the settlement of an enforcement action or to offset monetary penalties imposed by the State Water Resources Control Board, a Regional Water Quality Control Board, or any other regulatory authority; provided, however, that SCW funds may be used for a Funded Activity implemented pursuant to a time schedule order ("TSO") issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board if, at the time the TSO was issued, the Funded Activity was included in an approved watershed management program (including enhanced watershed management programs) developed pursuant to the MS4 Permit.

Recipient certifies that: (a) the Funded Activity is not being implemented as an ECA or SEP; (b) the Funded Activity is not being implemented pursuant to the settlement of an enforcement action or to offset monetary penalties imposed by the State Water Resources Control Board, a Regional Water Quality Control Board, or any other regulatory authority; and (c) the Funded Activity is not being implemented pursuant to a TSO issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board unless, at the time the TSO was issued, the Funded Activity was included in an approved watershed management program (including enhanced watershed management programs) developed pursuant to the MS4 Permit.

#### B-20. Indemnification

The Recipient shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the District and their elected and appointed officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all liability and expense arising from any act or omission of the Recipient, its officers, employees, agents, or subconsultants or contractors in conjunction with Recipient's performance under or pursuant to this Agreement, including defense costs, legal fees, claims, actions, and

causes of action for damages of any nature whatsoever, including but not limited to bodily injury, death, personal injury, or property damage.

#### B-21. Independent Actor

The Recipient, and its agents and employees, if any, in the performance of this Agreement, shall act in an independent capacity and not as officers, employees, or agents of the District.

The Recipient shall not contract work with a contractor who is in a period of debarment from any agency within the District. (LACC Chapter 2.202)

#### B-22. Integration

This is an integrated Agreement. This Agreement is intended to be a full and complete statement of the terms of the agreement between the District and Recipient, and expressly supersedes any and all prior oral or written agreements, covenants, representations and warranties, express or implied, concerning the subject matter of this Agreement.

#### B-23. Lapsed Funds

1. The Recipient shall be able to carry over uncommitted Special Parcel Tax funds for up to five (5) years from the end of the fiscal year in which those funds are transferred from the District to the Recipient.
2. If the Recipient is unable to expend the SCW Program Contribution within five (5) years from the end of the Fiscal Year in which those funds are transferred from the District to the Recipient, then lapsed funding procedures will apply. Lapsed funds are funds that were transferred to the Recipient but were not committed to eligible expenditures by the end of the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) fiscal year after the fiscal year in which those funds were transferred from the District.
3. Lapsed funds shall be allocated by the Watershed Area Steering Committee of the respective Watershed Area to a new Project with benefit to that Municipality or Watershed Area.
4. In the event that funds are to lapse, due to circumstances beyond the Recipient's control, then the Recipient may request an extension of up to twelve (12) months in which to commit the funds to eligible expenditures. Extension Requests must contain sufficient justification and be submitted to the District in writing no later than three (3) months before the funds are to lapse.
5. The decision to grant an extension is at the sole discretion of the District.
6. Funds still uncommitted to eligible expenditures after an extension is granted will be subject to lapsed funding procedures without exception.



7. Example:

<b><u>Fiscal Year Transferred</u></b>	<b><u>Funds Lapse After</u></b>	<b><u>Extension Request Due</u></b>	<b><u>Commit By</u></b>
2020–21	6/30/2026	No later than 3/31/2026	No later than 6/30/2027

B-24. Modification

This Agreement may be amended or modified only by mutual written consent of the Board and Recipient.

B-25. Non-Discrimination

The Recipient agrees to abide by all federal, state, and County laws, regulations, and policies regarding non-discrimination in employment and equal employment opportunity.

B-26. No Obligation of the District

The District will transfer the SCW Program Contribution to the Recipient for the funding of the Funded Activity. The District will have no further obligation, other than to transfer the funds, with respect to the Funded Activity itself.

B-27. No Third-Party Rights

The parties to this Agreement do not create rights in, or grant remedies to, any third party as a beneficiary of this Agreement, or of any duty, covenant, obligation, or undertaking established herein

B-28. Notice

1. The Recipient shall notify the District in writing within five (5) working days of the occurrence of the following:
  - a. Bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Recipient; or
  - b. Actions taken pursuant to State law in anticipation of filing for bankruptcy.
2. The Recipient shall notify the District within ten (10) working days of any litigation pending or threatened against the Recipient regarding its continued existence, consideration of dissolution, or disincorporation.
3. The Recipient shall notify the District promptly of the following:
  - a. Any significant deviation from in the submitted scope of the Funded Activity for the current Fiscal Year, including discussion of any major changes to the scope of the Funded Activity, noteworthy delays in implementation, anticipated

reduction in benefits, and/or modifications that change the SCW Program Goals intended to be accomplished by the Funded Activity. Under no circumstances may the Recipient make changes to the scope of the Funded Activity without receiving prior approval.

- b. Cessation of work on the Funded Activity where such cessation of work is expected to or does extend for a period of thirty (30) days or more;
- c. Any circumstance, combination of circumstances, or condition, which is expected to or does delay Activity Completion;
- d. Discovery of any potential archaeological or historical resource. Should a potential archaeological or historical resource be discovered during construction, the Recipient agrees that all work in the area of the find will cease until a qualified archaeologist has evaluated the situation and made recommendations regarding preservation of the resource. When the District is acting as the Lead Agency under CEQA for the Funded Activity, all work in the area of the find will remain suspended until the District has determined what actions should be taken to protect and preserve the resource and the Recipient agrees to implement appropriate actions as directed by the District;
- e. Any public or media event publicizing the accomplishments and/or results of this Agreement and provide the opportunity for attendance and participation by District representatives with at least fourteen (14) days' notice to the District;
- f. Activity completion.

#### B-29. Public Records

The Recipient acknowledges that, except for a subset of information regarding archaeological records, the Funded Activity records and locations are public records including, but not limited to, all of the submissions accompanying the application, all of the documents incorporated by reference into this Agreement, and all reports, disbursement requests, and supporting documentation submitted hereunder.

#### B-30. Recipient's Responsibility for Work

The Recipient shall be responsible for all work and for persons or entities engaged in work performed pursuant to this Agreement including, but not limited to, contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, and providers of services. The Recipient shall be responsible for responding to any and all disputes arising out of its contracts for work on the Project. The District will not mediate disputes between the Recipient and any other entity concerning responsibility for performance of work.

#### B-31. Related Litigation

The Recipient is prohibited from using the SCW Program Contribution to pay costs associated with any litigation described in Section 16.05.A.3. of the Code. Regardless of

whether the Project or any eventual related project is the subject of litigation, the Recipient agrees to complete the Project funded by the Agreement or to repay all the SCW Program Contribution plus interest to the District.

#### B-32. Remaining Balance

In the event that the Recipient does not spend all the SCW Program Contribution disbursed for the Funded Activity, Recipient shall promptly return the unspent SCW Program Contribution to the District.

#### B-33. Reporting

The Recipient shall be subject to and comply with all applicable requirements of the District regarding reporting requirements. Recipients shall report available data through the SCW Reporting Module, once available.

- Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports. The Recipient shall submit Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports, using a format provided by the District, within forty-five (45) days following the end of the calendar quarter (March, June, September, and December) to the District. The Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports shall be posted on the District's publicly accessible website. The Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Report shall include:
  - a. Amount of funds received;
  - b. Percent overall Funded Activity completion estimate;
  - c. Breakdown of how the SCW Program Contribution has been expended;
  - d. Documentation that the SCW Program Contribution was used for eligible expenditures in accordance with Chapters 16 and 18 of the Code;
  - e. Description of activities that have occurred, milestones achieved, and progress made to date, during the applicable reporting period including comparison to Exhibit A submission and corresponding metrics;
  - f. Identification of any phases or tasks of the scope of work that were scheduled to be started or completed during the reporting period (according to the work schedule), but which were delayed, and a discussion of the reasons for the delay, and of lessons learned;
  - g. Scheduling concerns and issues encountered that may delay completion of the task;
  - h. Work anticipated for the next reporting period;
  - i. Any anticipated schedule or budget modifications;

- j. Photo documentation (e.g. photos of community outreach events, stakeholder meetings, groundbreaking ceremonies, and project site that may be used on the publicly accessible District website) of the phases or tasks of the Project completed during the reporting period, as appropriate;
  - k. Additional financial or project-related information as required by the District;
  - l. Certification from a California Registered Professional (Civil Engineer or Geologist, as appropriate), that the Project was conducted in accordance with Exhibit A;
  - m. Status of Recipient's insurance; and
  - n. Description of post-performance for each completed infrastructure project is required after the first operational year and for a total of three years after the project begins operation. Post-performance reports shall focus on how each project is actually performing compared to its expected performance; whether the project is operated and maintained and providing intended benefits as proposed. A post-performance template will be provided by the District.
- Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports shall be submitted to the District Program Manager no later than forty-five days following the end of the calendar quarter as follows:

<b><u>Quarter</u></b>	<b><u>End of Quarter</u></b>	<b><u>Report Due</u></b>
First Quarter	September	15 November
Second Quarter	December	15 February
Third Quarter	March	15 May
Fourth Quarter	June	15 August

- Annually, a summary of the Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports shall be submitted to the Watershed Area Steering Committees to explain the previous year's Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports by the Recipient. The summary report shall be submitted six (6) months after the close of the Fourth Quarter. The summary report shall include:
  - Description of the Water Quality Benefits, Water Supply Benefits, and Community Investment Benefits and a summary of how funds have been allocated to achieve SCW Program Goals as articulated in Chapter 18.04 of the Code for the prior year. This includes comparisons to Exhibit A and alignment with corresponding specific quantitative targets and metrics (note that SCW Reporting Module will facilitate graphical representation of pertinent data).

- When the Funded Activity is an Infrastructure Program Project, include a description of how the County's Local and Targeted Worker Hire Policy has been applied and enforced; or if the Recipient is a Municipality and has adopted its own policy, include a description of how its policy was applied and enforced.
- Where the Funded Activity is an Infrastructure Program Project that has applied for Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure (ISI) verification, include a description of the final score and Envision award level. Annually, the Recipient shall prepare and provide members of the public with up-to-date information on the actual and budgeted use of the SCW Program Contribution.
- As Needed Information or Reports. The Recipient agrees to promptly provide such reports, data, and information as may be reasonably requested by the District including, but not limited to material necessary or appropriate for evaluation of the SCW Program or to fulfill any reporting requirements of the County, state or federal government.

#### B-34. Representations, Warranties, and Commitments

The Recipient represents, warrants, and commits as follows:

1. Authorization and Validity. The execution and delivery of this Agreement, including all incorporated documents, by the individual signing on behalf of Recipient, has been duly authorized by the governing individual(s), board or body of Recipient, as applicable. This Agreement constitutes a valid and binding obligation of the Recipient, enforceable in accordance with its terms, except as such enforcement may be limited by law.
2. No Violations. The execution, delivery, and performance by the Recipient of this Agreement, including all incorporated documents, do not violate any provision of any law or regulation in effect as of the date set forth on the first page hereof, or result in any breach or default under any contract, obligation, indenture, or other instrument to which the Recipient is a party or by which the Recipient is bound as of the date set forth on the first page hereof.
3. No Litigation. There are no pending or, to the Recipient's knowledge, threatened actions, claims, investigations, suits, or proceedings before any governmental authority, court, or administrative agency which affect the Recipient's ability to complete the Funded Activity.
4. Solvency. None of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement will be or have been made with an actual intent to hinder, delay, or defraud any present or future creditors of the Recipient. As of the date set forth on the first page hereof, the Recipient is solvent and will not be rendered insolvent by the transactions

contemplated by this Agreement. The Recipient is able to pay its debts as they become due.

5. Legal Status and Eligibility. The Recipient is duly organized and existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of California and will remain so through Activity Completion. The Recipient shall at all times maintain its current legal existence and preserve and keep in full force and effect its legal rights and authority through Activity Completion.
6. Insurance. The Recipient shall follow the Insurance Manual prepared by the Risk Management Office of the Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office. For Infrastructure Program Projects the Recipient shall provide General Liability, Automobile Liability, Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability, Builder's Risk Course of Construction Insurance, and Professional Liability as specified in the Insurance Manual: <https://riskmanagement.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Insurance-Manual-revised-May-2019.pdf>

#### B-35. Requirements for Good Standing

The Recipient must currently be in compliance with the District requirements set forth in this Agreement. The Recipient must demonstrate it has not failed to comply with previous County and/or District audit disallowances within the preceding five years.

#### B-36. Requirements Related to Recipient's Contractors

1. The Recipient shall apply and enforce provisions mirroring those set forth in the then-current version of the County's Local and Targeted Worker Hire Policy (LTWHP) as to contractors performing work on such a Project. Alternatively, if the Recipient is a Municipality and has adopted its own policy that is substantially similar to the LTWHP, the Recipient may, at its election, choose to apply and enforce the provisions of its own such policy as to contractors performing work on such a Project in lieu of the provisions of the LTWHP.
2. The Recipient shall apply and enforce provisions mirroring those set forth in Los Angeles County Code (LACC) Chapter 2.211 (Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Preference Program), LACC, Chapter 2.204 (Local Small Business Enterprise Preference Program), LACC, Chapter 2.205 (Social Enterprise Preference Program), LACC, Chapter 2.203 (Contractor Employee Jury Service Ordinance), LACC Chapter 2.206 (Defaulted Tax Program), LACC, Chapter 2.200 (Child Support Compliance Program, LACC, Chapter 2.160 (County Lobbyist Ordinance), Safely Surrendered Baby Law, and Zero Tolerance Policy on Human Trafficking, as to contractors performing work on such an Infrastructure Program Project, subject to statutory authorization for such preference program(s), and subject to applicable statutory limitations for such preference(s); and, furthermore, the Recipient shall take actions to promote increased contracting opportunities for Women-Owned Businesses on the Project, subject to applicable State or federal constitutional limitations.

3. The Recipient shall obtain all necessary approvals, entitlements, and permits required to implement the Project. Failure to obtain any necessary approval, entitlement, or permit shall constitute a breach of a material provision of this Agreement.
4. With respect to a Project funded with SCW Program Contributions through the Regional Program, if the Project has an estimated capital cost of over twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000), as adjusted periodically by the Chief Engineer in accordance with changes in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers in the Los Angeles area, or other appropriate index, a provision that the Infrastructure Program Project Developer for such a Project must require that all contractors performing work on such a Project be bound by the provisions of: (1) a County-wide Project Labor Agreement (Community Workforce Agreement), if such an agreement has been successfully negotiated between the County and the Trades and is approved by the Board, or (2) a Project Labor Agreement ("PLA") mirroring the provisions of such Community Workforce Agreement.
5. With respect to a Project funded with SCW Program Contributions through the Regional Program, if one or more of the Municipalities that is a financial contributor to a Project has its own PLA, a provision that the Infrastructure Program Project Developer for the Project must require that contractors performing work on the Project are bound to such PLA. If more than one of the contributing Municipalities to a capital project has a PLA, the Project Developer shall determine which of the PLAs will be applied to the Project.
6. Payment Bond. Payment bonds for exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars are required. A payment bond is defined as a surety bond posted by a contractor to guarantee that its subcontractors and material suppliers on the Project will be paid.
7. Performance Bond. Where contractors are used, the Recipient shall not authorize construction to begin until each contractor has furnished a performance bond in favor of the Recipient in the following amounts: faithful performance (100%) of contract value, and labor and materials (100%) of contract value. This requirement shall not apply to any contract for less than \$25,000.00. Any bond issues pursuant to this paragraph must be issued by a California-admitted surety. (Pub. Contract Code, 7103; Code Civ. Proc. 995.311.)
8. Prevailing Wage. The Recipient agrees to be bound by all the provisions of Sections 1771 and 1774 of the California Labor Code regarding prevailing wages and requires each of subcontractors to also comply. The Recipient shall monitor all contracts resulting from this Agreement to assure that the prevailing wage provisions of the Labor Code are being met. The Recipient affirms that it is aware of the provisions of section 3700 of the Labor Code, which requires every employer to be insured against liability for workers' compensation or to undertake self-insurance, and the Recipient affirms that it will comply with such provisions before commencing the performance of the work under this Agreement and will make it contractors and subcontractors aware of this provision .

9. Public Funding. This Funded Activity is publicly funded. Any service provider or contractor with which the Recipient contracts must not have any role or relationship with the Recipient, that, in effect, substantially limits the Recipient's ability to exercise its rights, including cancellation rights, under the contract, based on all the facts and circumstances.

#### B-37. Travel

Any reimbursement for necessary ground transportation and lodging shall be at rates not to exceed those set by the California Department of Human Resources; per diem costs will not be eligible expenses. These rates may be found at <http://www.calhr.ca.gov/employees/Pages/travel-reimbursements.aspx>. Reimbursement will be at the State travel amounts that are current as of the date costs are incurred by the Recipient. No travel outside the Los Angeles County Flood Control District region shall be reimbursed unless prior written authorization is obtained from the Program Manager.

#### B-38. Unenforceable Provision

In the event that any provision of this Agreement is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable, the parties agree that all other provisions of this Agreement have force and effect and shall not be affected thereby.



## **EXHIBIT C – SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

[If the Recipient is a public agency]

- C-1. The Recipient acknowledges and agrees that the Recipient is the "lead agency" regarding compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in connection with the Funded Activity and shall be responsible for the preparation of all documentation, analysis and other work and any mitigation necessary to comply with CEQA in connection with the Funded Activity. By entering into this Agreement, the District is not approving any activity that would be considered a project under CEQA.
- C-2. Upon the completion of the documentation, analysis and other work necessary to comply with CEQA as described in section C-1, the Recipient shall promptly provide such documentation, analysis and work to the District. The Recipient acknowledges that the District is a Responsible Agency under CEQA in connection with the Funded Activity and that the District will not disburse the SCW Program Contribution for any activities that meet the definition of a project under CEQA until the Recipient has provided such documentation, analysis and other work to the District and the District has complied with its obligations as a Responsible Agency under CEQA.
- C-3. In addition to its other indemnification obligations pursuant to this Agreement, the Recipient hereby agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless District, the County of Los Angeles and their officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all claims and/or actions related to the Funded Activity that may be asserted by any third party or public agency alleging violations of CEQA or the State CEQA Guidelines or the NEPA.
- C-4. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, if any documentation or other analysis pursuant to CEQA discloses that the Funded Activity, or portion thereof, will have one or more significant environmental impacts that cannot be feasibly mitigated, the Recipient shall promptly notify and consult with the District. With the District's approval, the Recipient may determine to terminate or modify the implementation of all or any portion of the Funded Activity in order to avoid such environmental impacts.
- C-5. In the event the parties, pursuant to the preceding paragraph, determine to terminate the implementation of the entirety of the Funded Activity, the Recipient shall promptly return all previously disbursed but unspent SCW Program Contributions and the Recipient shall thereafter have no further obligation under this Agreement to implement the Funded Activity. In the event the parties determine to terminate the implementation of a portion of the Funded Activity, the Recipient shall promptly return all previously disbursed but unspent SCW Program Contributions for the terminated portion of the Funded Activity and the Recipient shall thereafter have no further obligation under this Agreement to implement the

terminated portion of the Funded Activity, but this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect as to the portion of the Funded Activity not terminated.

[If the Recipient is not a public agency]

- C-1. The Recipient shall be responsible for the preparation of all documentation, analysis and other work including any mitigation, necessary to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in connection with the Funded Activity. Environmental documentation prepared in connection with the Funded Activity will be subject to the review and analysis of the District. Any decisions based on the documentation prepared by the Recipient will reflect the independent judgment of District. By entering into this Agreement, the District is not approving any activity that would be considered a project under CEQA and the Recipient acknowledges that the District will not disburse the SCW Program Contribution for any activities that meet the definition of a project under CEQA until the Recipient has prepared the documentation, analysis and other work necessary to comply with CEQA to the District's satisfaction.
- C-2. In addition to its other indemnification obligations pursuant to this Agreement, the Recipient hereby agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless District, the County of Los Angeles and their officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all claims and/or actions related to the Funded Activity that may be asserted by any third party or public agency alleging violations of CEQA or the CEQA Guidelines or the NEPA.
- C-3. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, if any documentation or other analysis pursuant to CEQA discloses that the Funded Activity or any portion thereof will have one or more significant environmental impacts that cannot be feasibly mitigated, the District, after consultation with the Recipient, may terminate the SCW Program Contribution for all or any portion of the Funded Activity or may request that the Funded Activity be modified in order to avoid such environmental impact(s).
- C-4. In the event that the District terminates the SCW Program Contribution for the entirety of the Funded Activity, the Recipient shall promptly return all previously disbursed but unspent SCW Program Contributions and the Recipient shall thereafter have no further obligation under this Agreement to implement the Funded Activity. In the event the District terminates the SCW Program Contribution for a portion on of the Funded Activity, the Recipient shall promptly return all previously disbursed but unspent SCW Program Contributions for the terminated portion of the Funded Activity and the Recipient shall thereafter have no further obligation under this Agreement to implement the terminated portion of the Funded Activity, but this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect as to the portion of the Funded Activity for which the SCW Program Contribution was not terminated.

**EXHIBIT D – ADDENDUM TO AGREEMENT**

**-DRAFT TEMPLATE-**

**ADDENDUM NO. \_\_\_\_ TO  
TRANSFER AGREEMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ BETWEEN  
THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT  
AND (INSERT PROJECT DEVELOPER)  
SAFE, CLEAN WATER PROGRAM – REGIONAL PROGRAM**

This Addendum No. \_\_\_\_ to Transfer Agreement No. \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter referred to as "Addendum No. \_\_\_\_", is entered into as of \_\_\_\_\_ by and between the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, hereinafter referred to as "District," and \_\_\_\_ (*Project Developer/Scientific Studies Applicant*), hereinafter referred to as "Recipient."

**WHEREAS**, District and Recipient entered into Transfer Agreement No. \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter referred to as "Agreement", pertaining generally to the transfer of a SCW Program Contribution (as therein defined) from District to Recipient for the implementation by Recipient of a Funded Activity (as therein defined) to increase stormwater and/or urban runoff capture and/or reduce stormwater and/or urban runoff pollution, on \_\_\_\_\_;

**WHEREAS**, the Agreement provides for the disbursement of the SCW Program Contribution for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year (as therein defined), and further provides that if the Funded Activity is included in a duly approved Stormwater Investment Plan (as therein defined) for a subsequent Fiscal Year, the parties shall enter into an addendum to the Agreement regarding the disbursement of the SCW Program Contribution for that subsequent Fiscal Year;

**WHEREAS**, the Funded Activity has been included in a duly approved Stormwater Investment Plan for Fiscal Year \_\_\_\_\_;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the promises, mutual representations, covenants and agreements in this Agreement, the District and the Recipient, each binding itself, its successors and assigns, do mutually promise, covenant, and agree as follows:

1. The definitions set forth in Sections 16.03 and 18.02 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code together with the definitions set forth in the Agreement shall apply to this Addendum No. \_\_\_\_.
2. The District shall disburse the SCW Program Contribution for the \_\_\_\_\_ Fiscal Year as described in the Budget Plan within \_\_\_\_ days of the execution of this Addendum by the last party to sign.
3. All terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Addendum No. \_\_\_\_ has been executed by the parties hereto.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Recipient):

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Title:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Title:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## EXHIBIT E – NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS (NBS) BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Nature-based solutions (NBS) refers to the sustainable management and use of nature for undertaking socio-environmental challenges, including climate change, water security, water pollution, food security, human health, and disaster risk management. As this environmental management practice is increasingly incorporated into projects for the SCW Program, this guidance document may be expanded upon to further quantify NBS practices based on benefits derived from their incorporation on projects.

The SCW Program defines NBS as a Project that utilizes natural processes that slow, detain, infiltrate or filter Stormwater or Urban Runoff. These methods may include relying predominantly on soils and vegetation; increasing the permeability of Impermeable Areas; protecting undeveloped mountains and floodplains; creating and restoring riparian habitat and wetlands; creating rain gardens, bioswales, and parkway basins; enhancing soil through composting, mulching; and, planting trees and vegetation, with preference for native species. NBS may also be designed to provide additional benefits such as sequestering carbon, supporting biodiversity, providing shade, creating and enhancing parks and open space, and improving quality of life for surrounding communities. NBS include Projects that mimic natural processes, such as green streets, spreading grounds and planted areas with water storage capacity. NBS may improve water quality, collect water for reuse or aquifer recharge, or to support vegetation growth utilizing natural processes.

Recipients are to consider using Nature-Based Solutions for infrastructure projects and include in each Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Report and annual summary whether and how their project achieves a good, better, or best for each of the 6 NBS methods in accordance with the guidance below. Additionally, Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports should include discussion on any considerations taken to maximize the class within each method. If at least 3 methods score within a single class, the overall project can be characterized as that class. Recipients must attach a copy of the matrix for each Project with the good, better, or best column indicated for each method, to facilitate District tracking of methods being utilized.



METHODS	GOOD	BETTER	BEST
Vegetation/Green Space	Use of climate-appropriate, eco-friendly vegetation (groundcover, shrubs, and trees) / green space 5%-15% covered by new climate-appropriate vegetation	Use of native, climate-appropriate, eco-friendly vegetation (groundcover, shrubs, and trees) / green space 16%-35% covered by new native vegetation	Establishment of plant communities with a diversity of native vegetation (groundcover, shrubs, and trees) / green space that is both native and climate-appropriate More than 35% covered by new native vegetation
Increase of Permeability	Installation of vegetated landscape – 25%-49% paved area removed Redesign of existing impermeable surfaces and/or installation of permeable surfaces (e.g. permeable pavement and infiltration trenches)	Installation of vegetated landscape – 50%-74% paved area removed Improvements of soil health (e.g., compaction reduction)	Installation of vegetated landscape – 75%-100% paved area removed Creation of well-connected and self-sustained natural landscapes with healthy soils, permeable surfaces, and appropriate vegetation
Protection of Undeveloped Mountains & Floodplains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preservation of native vegetation</li> <li>• Minimal negative impact to existing drainage system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preservation of native vegetation</li> <li>• Installation of new feature(s) to improve existing drainage system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of open green space</li> <li>• Installation of features to improve natural hydrology</li> </ul>
Creation & Restoration of Riparian Habitat & Wetlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partial restoration of existing riparian habitat and wetlands</li> <li>• Planting of climate appropriate vegetation - between 5 and 15 different climate-appropriate or native plant species newly planted</li> <li>• No potable water used to sustain the wetland</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full restoration of existing riparian habitat and wetlands</li> <li>• Planting of native vegetation - between 16 and 30 different native plant species newly planted</li> <li>• No potable water used to sustain the wetland</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full restoration and expansion of existing riparian habitat and wetlands</li> <li>• Planting of plant communities with a diversity of native vegetation – greater than 31 native plant species newly planted</li> <li>• No potable water used to sustain the wetland</li> </ul>

New Landscape Elements	Elements designed to capture runoff for other simple usage (e.g. rain gardens and cisterns), capturing the 85th percentile 24-hour storm event for at least 50% of the entire parcel	Elements that design to capture/redirect runoff and filter pollution (e.g. bioswales and parkway basins), capturing the 85th percentile 24-hour storm event from the entire parcel	Large sized elements that capture and treat runoff to supplement or replace existing water systems (e.g. wetlands, daylighting streams, groundwater infiltration, floodplain reclamation), capturing the 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile 24-hour storm event from the entire parcel and/or capturing off-site runoff
Enhancement of Soil	Use of soil amendments such as mulch and compost to retain moisture in the soil and prevent erosion Planting of new climate-appropriate vegetation to enhance soil organic matter	Use of soil amendments such as mulch and compost that are locally generated to retain moisture in the soil, prevent erosion, and support locally based composting and other soil enhancement activities Planting of new native, climate-appropriate vegetation to enhance soil organic matter	Use of soil amendments such as mulch and compost that are locally generated, especially use of next-generation design with regenerative adsorbents (e.g. woodchips, biochar) to retain moisture in the soil, prevent erosion, and support on-site composting and other soil enhancement activities Planting of new native, climate appropriate vegetation to enhance soil organic matter

## EXHIBIT F – OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Recipient or approved Project operator shall operate and maintain infrastructure projects for the useful life of the project and are to consider using the following guidance for operations and maintenance. Operational maintenance is the care and upkeep of Projects that may require detailed technical knowledge of the Project's function and design. Project specific operational and maintenance plans shall consider the activities listed below and set forth specific activities and frequencies (not limited to those below) as determined to be appropriate by the Municipalities and best practices, including stakeholder engagement as applicable. Operational maintenance is to be performed by the operator of the Project with a purpose to make the operator aware of the state of readiness of the Project to deliver stormwater and urban runoff benefits.

### 1. Litter Control

- Regularly removal of litter, nonhazardous waste materials, and accumulated debris near planted areas, rock areas, decomposed granite areas, rest areas, fence perimeters, adjoining access roads and driveways, drains, pedestrian trails, viewing stations, shelter houses, and bicycle pathways.
- Regularly inspection and maintenance of pet waste stations
- Maintaining trash receptacles
- Removal of trash, debris, and blockages from bioswales
- Inspection and cleaning of trash booms
- Inspection of weir gates and stop logs to clean debris, as required.

### 2. Vegetation Maintenance

- Weed control
  - Recognition and removal of weeds, such as perennial weeds, morning glory, vine-type weeds, ragweed, and other underground spreading weeds.
  - Avoiding activities that result in weed seed germination (e.g. frequent soil cultivation near trees or shrubs)
  - Regularly removal of weeds from landscape areas, including from berms, painted areas, rock areas, gravel areas, pavement cracks along access roads and driveways, drains, pedestrian trails, viewing stations, park shelters, and bicycle paths.
- Tree and shrubbery trimming and care
  - Removal of dead trees and elimination of diseased/damaged growth
  - Prevent encroachment of adjacent property and provide vertical clearance
  - Inspect for dead or diseased plants regularly
- Wetland vegetation and landscape maintenance
  - Installation and maintenance of hydrophytic and emergent plants in perennially wet and seasonal, intermittent habitats.



- Draining and drawdown of wetland and excessive bulrush removal
- Weed and nuisance plant control
- Removal of aquatic vegetation (e.g. algae and primrose) using appropriate watercraft and harvesting equipment
- Wildflower and meadow maintenance
- Grass, sedge, and yarrow management
- Removal of unwanted hydroseed

### 3. Wildlife Management

- Exotic species control
- Provide habitat management; promote growth of plants at appropriate densities and promote habitat structure for animal species
- Protect sensitive animal species (e.g. protection during critical life stages including breeding and migration)
- Avoid disturbances to nesting birds
- Avoid spread of invasive aquatic species

### 4. Facility Inspection

- Inspect project sites for rodent and insect infestations on a regular basis
- Inspect for and report graffiti in shelter houses, viewing stations, benches, paving surfaces, walls, fences, and educational and directional signs
- Inspect facilities for hazardous conditions on roads and trails (e.g. access roads and trails, decomposed granite pathways, and maintenance roads)
- Inspect shade structures for structural damage or defacement
- Inspect hardscapes
- Inspect and maintain interpretive and informational signs
- Inspect site furnishings (e.g. benches, hitching posts, bicycle racks)
- Maintain deck areas (e.g. benches, signs, decking surfaces)
- Visually inspect weirs and flap gates for damage; grease to prevent locking.
- Inspect all structures after major storm events, periodically inspect every 3 months, and operate gates through full cycles to prevent them from locking up.

### 5. Irrigation System Management

- Ensuring automatic irrigation controllers are functioning properly and providing various plant species with proper amount of water.
  - Cycle controller(s) through each station manually and automatically to determine if all facets are functioning properly.
  - Inspection should be performed at least monthly.
  - Recover, replace, or refasten displaced or damaged valve box covers.
  - Inspect and repair bubbler heads.

- Repair and replace broken drip lines or emitters causing a loss of water (to prevent ponding and erosion).
  - Maintain drip system filters to prevent emitters from clogging. Inspection and cleaning should occur at least monthly.
  - Inspect and clean mainline filters, wye strainers, basket filters, and filters at backflow devices twice a year.
  - Maintain and check function of the drip system.
- Keeping irrigation control boxes clear of vegetation
  - Operating irrigation system to ensure it does not cause excessively wet, waterlogged areas, and slope failure
  - Utilizing infrequent deep watering techniques to encourage deep rooting, drought tolerant plant characteristics to promote a self-sustaining, irrigation free landscape
  - Determine watering schedules based on season, weather, variation in plant size, and plant varieties. At least four times a year (e.g. change of season), reschedule controller systems.
  - Turn off irrigation systems at the controller at the beginning of the rainy season, or when the soil has a high enough moisture content.
  - Use moisture sensing devices to determine water penetration in soil.
6. Erosion Management and Control
- Inspect slopes for erosion during each maintenance activity
  - Inspect basins for erosion
  - Take corrective measures as needed, including filling eroded surfaces, reinstalling or extending bank protection, and replanting exposed soil.
7. Ongoing Monitoring Activities
- Monitor controllable intake water flow and water elevation
  - Examine inflow and outflow structures to ensure devices are functioning properly and are free of obstructions.
  - Water quality sampling (quarterly, unless justified otherwise)
  - Checking telemetry equipment
  - Tracking and reporting inspection and maintenance records
8. Vector and Nuisance Insect Control
- Monitoring for the presence of vector and nuisance insect species
  - Adequate pretreatment of influent wastewater to lessen production of larval mosquitos
  - Managing emergent vegetation
  - Using hydraulic control structures to rapidly dewater emergent marsh areas
  - Managing flow velocities to reduce propagation of vectors

**-DRAFT TEMPLATE-**  
**TRANSFER AGREEMENT BETWEEN**  
**THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT**  
**AND (MUNICIPALITY)**  
**AGREEMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_**  
**SAFE, CLEAN WATER PROGRAM – MUNICIPAL PROGRAM**

This Transfer Agreement, hereinafter referred to as "Agreement," is entered into as of \_\_\_\_\_ by and between the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, hereinafter referred to as "District," and (Municipality), hereinafter referred to as "Municipality."

**WHEREAS**, District, pursuant to the Los Angeles Region Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program ordinance (Chapter 16 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code) and the SCW Program Implementation Ordinance (Chapter 18 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code), administers the SCW Program for the purpose of funding Projects and Programs to increase stormwater and urban runoff capture and reduce stormwater and urban runoff pollution in the District;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 16.04.A.2. of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code, forty percent (40%) of annual SCW Program tax revenues shall be allocated to Municipalities within the District, in the same proportion as the amount of revenues collected within each Municipality, to be expended by those cities within the cities' respective jurisdictions and by the County within the unincorporated areas that are within the boundaries of the District, for the implementation, operation and maintenance, and administration of Projects and Programs, in accordance with the criteria and procedures established in this Chapters 16 and 18 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 16.05.A.1. of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code, prior to their receipt of SCW Program funds, Municipalities must enter into an agreement with the District to transfer SCW Program funds;

**WHEREAS**, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors has approved a standard template Agreement, as required by and in accordance with Section 18.09 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code, for the transfer of SCW Program funds to Municipalities.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the promises, mutual representations, covenants and agreements in this Agreement, the District and the Municipality, each binding itself, its successors and assigns, do mutually promise, covenant, and agree as follows:

## **I. DEFINITIONS**

The definitions set forth in Sections 16.03 and 18.02 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code shall apply to this Agreement. In addition, the following definitions shall also apply:

“Agreement” means this Transfer Agreement, including all exhibits and attachments hereto.

“Annual Plan” means the plan referred to in Section 18.09.B.5 of the Code that includes the contents specified in Exhibit A.

“Code” means the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code.

“Days” means calendar days unless otherwise expressly indicated.

“Fiscal Year” means the period of twelve (12) months terminating on June 30 of any year.

“Safe Clean Water (SCW) Program Payment” means the Municipality's annual allocation of SCW Program funds as described in Section 16.04.A.2. of the Code disbursed by the District to the Municipality.

“Year” means calendar year unless otherwise expressly indicated.

## **II. PARTY CONTACTS**

The District and the Municipality designate the following individuals as the primary points of contact and communication regarding the Municipal Program and the administration and implementation of this Agreement.

Los Angeles County Flood Control District		Municipality:	
Name:	(Program Manager)	Name:	(Municipal Contact)
Address:		Address:	
Phone:		Phone:	
Email:		Email:	

Either party to this Agreement may change the individual identified as the primary point of contact above by providing written notice of the change to the other party.

## **III. EXHIBITS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

The following exhibits to this Agreement, including any amendments and supplements hereto, are hereby incorporated herein and made a part of this Agreement:

EXHIBIT A – ANNUAL PLAN CONTENTS

EXHIBIT B – GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

EXHIBIT C – NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS (Best Management Practices)

## EXHIBIT D – OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

### **IV. MUNICIPAL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION**

- A. The Municipality shall annually prepare and submit to the District, an Annual Plan. The Annual Plan for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year shall be submitted to the District no later than 45-days after the execution of this Agreement by the last party to sign. An Annual Plan for each subsequent Fiscal Year shall be submitted not later than 90-days prior to the start of the Fiscal Year for which the Plan is prepared.
- B. The Municipality shall utilize the SCW Program Payments in compliance with Chapters 16 and 18 of the Code.
- C. The Municipality shall comply with the terms and conditions in Exhibits B, C, and D, of this Agreement, and all applicable provisions of Chapters 16 and 18 of the Code, specifically including, without limitation, Section 18.06.

### **V. SCW PROGRAM PAYMENTS TO MUNICIPALITIES**

- A. The District shall disburse the Municipality's SCW Program Payment for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year within 45-days of the signed executed Agreement or within 14-days of the District's receipt of the Annual Plan for 2020-21 Fiscal Year in compliance with Exhibit A, whichever comes later. The initial disbursement of SCW Program Payments shall include the amount of revenue collected by the District at the time of Agreement execution; any additional funds that are subsequently collected will be disbursed by August 31, 2020.
- B. SCW Program Payments in subsequent Fiscal Years will generally be available for disbursement by August 31, provided a duly executed transfer agreement is in effect and subject to the Municipality's compliance with the conditions described in paragraph C, below; however the District may, in its discretion, change the date and number of the actual disbursements for any Fiscal Year based on the amount and timing of revenues actually collected by the District.
- C. For subsequent Fiscal Years, the District shall disburse the Municipality's SCW Program Payment upon satisfaction of the following conditions: (1) the District has received the Annual Progress/Expenditure Report required pursuant to Section 18.06.D of the Code; (2) the District has received Municipality's Annual Plan for that Fiscal Year, and (3) the Municipality has complied with the audit requirements of Section B-6 of Exhibit B.
- D. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, no disbursement shall be made at any time or in any manner that is in violation of or in conflict with federal, state, County laws, policies, or regulations.
- E. All disbursements shall be subject to and be made in accordance with the terms and conditions in this Agreement and Chapters 16 and 18 of the Code.

## **VI. Term of Agreement**

This Agreement shall expire at the end of the 2023-24 Fiscal Year. The parties shall thereafter enter into a new agreement based on the most recent standard template agreement approved by the Board.

DRAFT

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement has been executed by the parties hereto.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Municipal Contact):

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Title:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Title:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **EXHIBIT A – ANNUAL PLAN CONTENTS**

- A-1. Description of all projects anticipated to be funded using the SCW Program Payment. Include a discussion of how the projects will result in the achievement of one or more SCW Program Goals, including quantitative targets and corresponding metrics for subsequent reporting of all applicable parameters.
- A-2. Description of all programs anticipated to be funded using the SCW Program Payment. Include a discussion of how the programs will result in the achievement of one or more SCW Program Goals; including quantitative targets and corresponding metrics for subsequent reporting of all applicable parameters.
- A-3. Description of all operation and maintenance activities anticipated to be funded using the SCW Program Payment. Include a discussion of how those activities will result in the achievement of one or more SCW Program Goals. Additional operation and maintenance activities, even if funded by other sources, should be referenced to provide an overview of anticipated overall project approach.
- A-4. Description of the stakeholder and community outreach/engagement activities anticipated to be funded with the SCW Program Payment, including discussion of how local NGOs or CBOs will be involved, if applicable, and if not, why. Additional outreach/engagement activities, even if funded by other sources, should be referenced to provide an overview of anticipated overall project approach.
- A-5. Description of post-construction monitoring for projects completed using the SCW Program Payment. Additional post-construction monitoring activities, even if funded by other sources, should be referenced to provide an overview of anticipated overall project approach.
- A-6. Provide the status of any projects that have been awarded (or are seeking award of) Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure (ISI) verification, if applicable.
- A-7. Provide the budget for the activities described in provisions A1 through A-5 SCW Program Payment.



## **EXHIBIT B – GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **B-1. Accounting and Deposit of Funding Disbursement**

1. SCW Program Payments distributed to the Municipality shall be held in a separate interest-bearing account and shall not be combined with other funds. Interest earned from each account shall be used by the Municipality only for eligible expenditures consistent with the requirements of the SCW Program.
2. The Municipality shall not be entitled to interest earned on undisbursed SCW Program Payments; interest earned prior to disbursement is property of the District.
3. The Municipality shall operate in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).
4. The Municipality shall be strictly accountable for all funds, receipts, and disbursements for their SCW Program Payment.

### **B-2. Acknowledgement of Credit and Signage**

The Municipality shall include appropriate acknowledgement of credit to the District's Safe, Clean Water Program for its support when promoting activities funded with SCW Program funds or using any data and/or information developed SCW Program funds. When the SCW Program Payment is used, in whole or in part, for construction of an infrastructure Project, signage shall be posted in a prominent location at Project site(s) or at the Municipality's headquarters and shall include the Safe, Clean Water Program color logo and the following disclosure statement: "Funding for this project has been provided in full or in part from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's Safe, Clean Water Program." At a minimum the sign shall be 2' x 3' in size. The Municipality shall also include in each of its contracts for work under this Agreement a provision that incorporates the requirements stated within this paragraph.

When the SCW Program Payment is used, in whole or in part, for a scientific study, the Municipality shall include the following statement in the study report: "Funding for this study has been provided in full or in part from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's Safe, Clean Water Program." The Municipality shall also include in each of its contracts for work under this Agreement a provision that incorporates the requirements stated within this paragraph.

### **B-3. Acquisition of Real Property - Covenant**

Any real property acquired in whole or in part with SCW Program funds shall be used for Projects and Programs that are consistent with the SCW Program Goals and with the provisions of Chapter 16 and 18 of the Code.

Any Municipality that acquires the fee title to real property using, in whole or in part, SCW Program funds shall record a document in the office of the Registrar-Recorder/County

Clerk containing a covenant not to sell or otherwise convey the real property without the prior express written consent of the District, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

**B-4. Amendment**

Except as provided in Section II of the Agreement, no amendment or variation of the terms of this Agreement shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by the parties. No oral or written understanding or agreement not incorporated in this Agreement is binding on any of the parties.

**B-5. Assignment**

The Municipality shall not assign this Agreement.

**B-6. Audit and Recordkeeping**

1. The Municipality shall retain for a period of seven (7) years, all records necessary in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles to determine the amounts expended, and eligibility of Projects implemented using SCW Program Payments. The Municipality, upon demand by authorized representatives of the District, shall make such records available for examination and review or audit by the District or its authorized representatives. Records shall include accounting records, written policies and procedures, contract files, original estimates, correspondence, change order files, including documentation covering negotiated settlements, invoices, and any other supporting evidence deemed necessary to substantiate charges related to SCW Program Payments and expenditures.
2. The Municipality is responsible for obtaining an independent audit to determine compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement and all requirements applicable to the Municipality contained in chapters 16 and 18 of the Code. Municipality shall obtain an independent audit of their SCW Program Payments every three (3) years. Audits shall be funded with Municipal Program funds.
3. Municipality shall file a copy of all audit reports by the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) month from the end of each three (3) year period to detail the preceding three (3) years of expenditures. Audit reports shall be posted on the District's publicly accessible website.

<b>Every Third Fiscal Year</b>		
<b><u>Fiscal Year</u></b>	<b><u>Audit Begins</u></b>	<b><u>Audit Report Due to District</u></b>
2020-21	7/1/2023	No later than 3/31/2024

4. Upon reasonable advanced request, the Municipality shall permit the Chief Engineer to examine the infrastructure Projects using SCW Program Payments. The Municipality shall permit the authorized District representative, including the Auditor-Controller, to examine, review, audit, and transcribe any and all audit

reports, other reports, books, accounts, papers, maps, and other records that relate to the SCW Program Payments. Examination activities are considered District administration of the SCW Program.

5. Expenditures determined by an audit to be in violation of any provision of Chapters 16 or 18 of the Code, or of this Agreement, shall be subject to the enforcement and remedy provisions of Section 18.14 of the Code.

#### B-7. Availability of Funds

District's obligation to disburse the SCW Program Payment is contingent upon the availability of sufficient funds to permit the disbursements provided for herein. If sufficient funds are not available for any reason including, but not limited to, failure to fund allocations necessary for disbursement of the SCW Program Payment, the District shall not be obligated to make any disbursements to the Municipality under this Agreement. This provision shall be construed as a condition precedent to the obligation of the District to make any disbursements under this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to provide the Municipality with a right of priority for disbursement over any other Municipality. If any disbursements due to the Municipality under this Agreement are deferred because sufficient funds are unavailable, it is the intention of the District that such disbursement will be made to the Municipality when sufficient funds do become available, but this intention is not binding. If this Agreement's funding for any Fiscal Year is reduced or deleted by order of the Board, the District shall have the option to either cancel this Agreement with no liability occurring to the District or offer an amendment to the Municipality to reflect the reduced amount.

#### B-8. Choice of Law

The laws of the State of California govern this Agreement.

#### B-9. Claims

Any claim of the Municipality is limited to the rights, remedies, and claims procedures provided to the Municipality under this Agreement. Municipal expenditures of a SCW Program Payment that involves the District shall utilize a separate and specific agreement to that Project that includes appropriate indemnification superseding that in this Agreement.

#### B-10. Compliance with SCW Program

The Municipality shall comply with and require its contractors and subcontractors to comply with all provisions of Chapters 16 and 18 of the Code.

#### B-11. Compliance with Law, Regulations, etc.

The Municipality shall, at all times, comply with and require its contractors and subcontractors to comply with all applicable local, state and federal laws, rules, guidelines, regulations, and requirements.

#### B-12. Continuous Use of Municipal Projects; Lease or Disposal of Municipal Projects

The Municipality shall not abandon, substantially discontinue use of, lease, or dispose of all or a significant part or portion of any Project funded in whole or in part with SCW Program Payments during the useful life (defined as 30 years unless specified otherwise in annual plans and subsequent reports) of the Project without prior written approval of the District. Such approval may be conditioned as determined to be appropriate by the District, including a condition requiring repayment of a pro rata amount of the SCW Program Payments used to fund the Project together with interest on said amount accruing from the date of lease or disposal of the Project.

#### B-13. Disputes

Should a dispute arise between the parties, the party asserting the dispute will notify the other parties in writing of the dispute. The parties will then meet and confer within 21 calendar days of the notice in a good faith attempt to resolve the dispute.

If the matter has not been resolved through the process set forth in the preceding paragraph, any party may initiate mediation of the dispute. Mediation will be before a retired judge or mediation service mutually agreeable to the parties. All costs of the mediation, including mediator fees, will be paid one-half by the District and one-half by the Municipality. SCW Program Payments shall not be used to pay for any costs of the mediation.

The parties will attempt to resolve any dispute through the process set forth above before filing any action relating to the dispute in any court of law.

#### B-14. Final Inspection and Certification of Registered Professional

Upon completion of the design phase and before construction of a project, the Municipality shall provide certification by a California Registered Professional (i.e., Professional Civil Engineer, Engineering Geologist) that the design has been completed.

Upon completion of the project, the Municipality shall provide for a final inspection and certification by a California Registered Professional (i.e., Professional Civil Engineer, Engineering Geologist), that the Project has been completed in accordance with submitted final plans and specifications and any modifications thereto and in accordance with this Agreement.

#### B-15. Force Majeure.

In the event that Municipality is delayed or hindered from the performance of any act required hereunder by reason of strikes, lockouts, labor troubles, inability to procure materials not related to the price thereof, riots, insurrection, war, or other reasons of a like nature beyond the control of the Municipality, then performance of such acts shall be excused for the period of the delay, and the period for the performance of any such act shall be extended for a period equivalent to the period of such delay.

#### B-16. Funding Considerations and Exclusions

1. All expenditures of SCW Program Payments by Municipality must comply with the provisions of Chapters 16 and 18 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code, including but not limited to the provisions regarding eligible expenditures contained in Section 16.05.A.2 and the provision regarding ineligible expenditures contained in Section 16.05.A.3.
2. SCW Program Payments shall not be used in connection with any Project implemented as an Enhanced Compliance Action ("ECA") and/or Supplemental Environmental Project ("SEP") as defined by State Water Resources Control Board Office of Enforcement written policies, or any other Project implemented pursuant to the settlement of an enforcement action or to offset monetary penalties imposed by the State Water Resources Control Board, a Regional Water Quality Control Board, or any other regulatory authority; provided, however, that SCW funds may be used for a Project implemented pursuant to a time schedule order ("TSO") issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board if, at the time the TSO was issued, the Project was included in an approved watershed management program (including enhanced watershed management programs) developed pursuant to the MS4 Permit.

#### B-17. Indemnification

The Municipality shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the District, the County of Los Angeles and their elected and appointed officials, agents, and employees from and against any and all liability and expense, including defense costs, legal fees, claims, actions, and causes of action for damages of any nature whatsoever, including but not limited to bodily injury, death, personal injury, or property damage, arising from or in conjunction with: (1) any Project or Program implemented by the Municipality, in whole or in part, with SCW Program Payments or (2) any breach of this Agreement by the Municipality.

#### B-18. Independent Actor

The Municipality, and its agents and employees, if any, in the performance of this Agreement, shall act in an independent capacity and not as officers, employees, or agents of the District.

The Municipality shall not contract work with a contractor who is in a period of debarment from any agency within the District. (LACC Chapter 2.202)

#### B-19. Integration

This is an integrated Agreement. This Agreement is intended to be a full and complete statement of the terms of the agreement between the District and Municipality, and expressly supersedes any and all prior oral or written agreements, covenants, representations and warranties, express or implied, concerning the subject matter of this Agreement.

#### B-20. Lapsed Funds

1. The Municipality shall be able to carry over uncommitted SCW Program Payments for up to five (5) years from the end of the fiscal year in which those funds are transferred from the District to the Municipality.
2. If the Municipality is unable to expend the SCW Program Payment within five (5) years from the end of the fiscal year in which those funds are transferred from the District to the Municipality, then lapsed funding procedures will apply. Lapsed funds are funds that were transferred to the Municipality but were not committed to eligible expenditures by the end of the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) fiscal year after the fiscal year in which those funds were transferred from the District.
3. Lapsed funds shall be allocated by the Watershed Area Steering Committee of the respective Watershed Area to a new Project with benefit to that Municipality, if feasible in a reasonable time frame, or otherwise to the Watershed Area.
4. In the event that funds are to lapse, due to circumstances beyond the Municipality's control, then the Municipality may request an extension of up to twelve (12) months in which to commit the funds to eligible expenditures. Extension Requests must contain sufficient justification and be submitted to the District in writing no later than three (3) months before the funds are to lapse.
5. The decision to grant an extension is at the sole discretion of the District.
6. Funds still uncommitted to eligible expenditures after an extension is granted will be subject to lapsed funding procedures without exception.

<b><u>Fiscal Year Transferred</u></b>	<b><u>Funds Lapse After</u></b>	<b><u>Extension Request Due</u></b>	<b><u>Commit By</u></b>
2019-20	6/30/2025	No later than 3/31/2025	No later than 6/30/2026

#### B-21. Municipal Project Access

Upon reasonable advance request, the Municipality shall ensure that the District or any authorized representative, will have safe and suitable access to the site of any Project implemented by the Municipality in whole or in part with SCW Program Payments at all reasonable times.

#### B-22. Non-Discrimination

The Municipality agrees to abide by all federal, state, and County laws, regulations, and policies regarding non-discrimination in employment and equal employment opportunity.



#### B-23. No Third-Party Rights

The parties to this Agreement do not create rights in, or grant remedies to, any third party as a beneficiary of this Agreement, or of any duty, covenant, obligation, or undertaking established herein

#### B-24. Notice

1. The Municipality shall notify the District in writing within five (5) working days of the occurrence of the following:
  - a. Bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Municipality; or
  - b. Actions taken pursuant to State law in anticipation of filing for bankruptcy.
2. The Municipality shall notify the District within ten (10) working days of any litigation pending or threatened against the Municipality regarding its continued existence, consideration of dissolution, or disincorporation.
3. The Municipality shall notify the District promptly of the following:
  - a. Any significant deviation from the submitted Annual Plan for the current Fiscal Year, including discussion of any major changes to the scope of funded projects or programs, noteworthy delays in implementation, reduction in benefits or community engagement, and/or modifications that change the SCW Program Goals intended to be accomplished.
  - b. Discovery of any potential archaeological or historical resource. Should a potential archaeological or historical resource be discovered during construction, the Municipality agrees that all work in the area of the find will cease until a qualified archaeologist has evaluated the situation and made recommendations regarding preservation of the resource, and the District has determined what actions should be taken to protect and preserve the resource. The Municipality agrees to implement appropriate actions as directed by the District.
  - c. Any public or media event publicizing the accomplishments and/or results of this Agreement and provide the opportunity for attendance and participation by District representatives with at least fourteen (14) days' notice to the District.

#### B-25. Municipality's Responsibility for Work

The Municipality shall be responsible for all work and for persons or entities engaged in work performed pursuant to this Agreement including, but not limited to, contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, and providers of services. The Municipality shall be responsible for responding to any and all disputes arising out of its contracts for work on the Project. The District will not mediate disputes between the Municipality and any other entity concerning responsibility for performance of work.

## B-26. Reporting

The Municipality shall be subject to and comply with all applicable requirements of the District regarding reporting requirements. Municipalities shall report available data through the SCW Reporting Module, once available.

1. Annual Progress/Expenditure Reports. The Municipality shall submit Annual Progress/Expenditure Reports, using a format provided by the District, within six (6) months following the end of the Fiscal Year to the District to detail the activities of the prior year. The Annual Progress/Expenditure Reports shall be posted on the District's publicly accessible website and on the Municipality's website. The Annual Progress/Expenditure Report shall include:

- a. Amount of funds received;
- b. Breakdown of how the SCW Program Payment has been expended;
- c. Documentation that the SCW Program Payment was used for eligible expenditures in accordance with Chapters 16 and 18 of the Code;
- d. Description of activities that have occurred, milestones achieved, and progress made to date, during the applicable reporting period including comparison to the Annual Plan and corresponding metrics;
- e. Discussion of any existing gaps between what was planned and what was achieved for the prior year, include any lessons learned;
- f. Description of the Water Quality Benefits, Water Supply Benefits, and Community Investment Benefits and a summary of how SCW Program Payments have been used to achieve SCW Program Goals for the prior year, including graphical representation of available data and specific metrics to demonstrate the benefits being achieved through the years' investments.
- g. Discussion of alignment with other local, regional, and state efforts, resources, and plans, as applicable. This includes discussion of opportunities for addressing additional SCW Program Goals, leveraging SCW Program Goals, and increasing regional capacity to supplement the SCW Program.
- h. Additional financial or Project-related information in connection with activity funded in whole or in part using SCW Program Payments as required by the District.
- i. Certification from a California Registered Professional (Civil Engineer or Geologist, as appropriate), that projects implemented with SCW Program Payments were conducted in accordance with Chapters 16 and 18 of the Code.



- j. Report on annual and total (since inception of program) benefits provided by programs and projects funded by SCW Program Payment. This includes comparisons to annual plans and alignment with corresponding specific quantitative targets and metrics (note that SCW Reporting Module will facilitate calculation of benefits and graphical representation of pertinent data):
  - i. Annual volume of stormwater captured and treated
  - ii. Annual volume of stormwater captured and reused
  - iii. Annual volume of stormwater captured and recharged to a managed aquifer
  - iv. Annual creation, enhancement, or restoration of Community Investment Benefits. If none, discuss considerations explored and reasons to not include.
  - v. Annual acreage increases in Nature-Based Solutions and claimed level of NBS (with matrix demonstrating determination of good, better, best, as outlined in Exhibit C). If none, discuss considerations explored and reasons to not include.
  - vi. Annual expenditures providing DAC Benefits. If none, discuss considerations explored and reasons to not include.
2. Documentation of the Community Outreach and Engagement utilized for and/or achieved with the SCW Program Payment described in the Annual Plan Exhibit A. This information must be readily accessible to members of the public.
3. As Needed Information or Reports. The Municipality agrees to promptly provide such reports, data, and information as may be reasonably requested by the District including, but not limited to material necessary or appropriate for evaluation of the SCW Program or to fulfill any reporting requirements of the County, state or federal government.

#### B-27. Representations, Warranties, and Commitments

The Municipality represents, warrants, and commits as follows:

1. Authorization and Validity. The execution and delivery of this Agreement, including all incorporated documents, by the individual signing on behalf of Municipality, has been duly authorized by the governing body of Municipality, as applicable. This Agreement constitutes a valid and binding obligation of the Municipality, enforceable in accordance with its terms, except as such enforcement may be limited by law.
2. No Violations. The execution, delivery, and performance by the Municipality of this Agreement, including all incorporated documents, do not violate any provision of any law or regulation in effect as of the date set forth on the first page hereof, or result in any breach or default under any contract, obligation, indenture, or other

instrument to which the Municipality is a party or by which the Municipality is bound as of the date set forth on the first page hereof.

3. No Litigation. There are no pending or, to the Municipality's knowledge, threatened actions, claims, investigations, suits, or proceedings before any governmental authority, court, or administrative agency which affect the Municipality's ability to complete the Annual Plan.
4. Solvency. None of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement will be or have been made with an actual intent to hinder, delay, or defraud any present or future creditors of the Municipality. As of the date set forth on the first page hereof, the Municipality is solvent and will not be rendered insolvent by the transactions contemplated by this Agreement. The Municipality is able to pay its debts as they become due.
5. Legal Status and Eligibility. The Municipality is duly organized and existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of California. The Municipality shall at all times maintain its current legal existence and preserve and keep in full force and effect its legal rights and authority.
6. Good Standing. The Municipality must demonstrate it has not failed to comply with previous County and/or District audit disallowances within the preceding five years.

#### B-28. Travel

Any reimbursement for necessary ground transportation and lodging shall be at rates not to exceed those set by the California Department of Human Resources; per diem costs will not be eligible expenses. These rates may be found at <http://www.calhr.ca.gov/employees/Pages/travel-reimbursements.aspx>. Reimbursement will be at the State travel amounts that are current as of the date costs are incurred by the Municipality. No travel outside the Los Angeles County Flood Control District region shall be reimbursed unless prior written authorization is obtained from the Program Manager.

#### B-29. Unenforceable Provision

In the event that any provision of this Agreement is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable, the parties agree that all other provisions of this Agreement have force and effect and shall not be affected thereby.

#### B-30. Withholding of Disbursements and Material Violations

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the District may withhold all or any portion of the SCW Program Payment for any Fiscal Year in the event that:

1. The Municipality has violated any provision of this Agreement; or

2. The Municipality fails to maintain reasonable progress in achieving SCW Program Goals, following an opportunity to cure.
3. Failure to remain in Good Standing, described in Section B-26 of Exhibit B.
4. Failure to submit annual reports on meeting SCW Program Goals.

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## EXHIBIT C – NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS (NBS) BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Municipalities shall consider incorporation of Nature-based solutions (NBS) into their projects. NBS refers to the sustainable management and use of nature for undertaking socio-environmental challenges, including climate change, water security, water pollution, food security, human health, and disaster risk management. As this environmental management practice is increasingly incorporated into projects for the SCW Program, this guidance document may be expanded upon to further quantify NBS practices based on benefits derived from their incorporation on projects.

The SCW Program defines NBS as a Project that utilizes natural processes that slow, detain, infiltrate or filter Stormwater or Urban Runoff. These methods may include relying predominantly on soils and vegetation; increasing the permeability of Impermeable Areas; protecting undeveloped mountains and floodplains; creating and restoring riparian habitat and wetlands; creating rain gardens, bioswales, and parkway basins; enhancing soil through composting, mulching; and, planting trees and vegetation, with preference for native species. NBS may also be designed to provide additional benefits such as sequestering carbon, supporting biodiversity, providing shade, creating and enhancing parks and open space, and improving quality of life for surrounding communities. NBS include Projects that mimic natural processes, such as green streets, spreading grounds and planted areas with water storage capacity. NBS may capture stormwater to improve water quality, collect water for reuse or aquifer recharge, or to support vegetation growth utilizing natural processes.

Municipalities are to include in each Annual Progress/Expenditure Report whether and how their project achieves a good, better, or best for each of the 6 NBS methods in accordance with the guidance below. Additionally, Annual Progress/ Expenditure Reports should include discussion on any considerations taken to maximize the class within each method. If at least 3 methods score within a single class, the overall project can be characterized as that class. Municipalities must attach a copy of the matrix for each project with the good, better, or best column indicated for each method, to facilitate District tracking of methods being utilized.



METHODS	GOOD	BETTER	BEST
Vegetation/Green Space	Use of climate-appropriate, eco-friendly vegetation (groundcover, shrubs, and trees) / green space 5%-15% covered by new climate-appropriate vegetation	Use of native, climate-appropriate, eco-friendly vegetation (groundcover, shrubs, and trees) / green space 16%-35% covered by new native vegetation	Establishment of plant communities with a diversity of native vegetation (groundcover, shrubs, and trees) / green space that is both native and climate-appropriate More than 35% covered by new native vegetation
Increase of Permeability	Installation of vegetated landscape – 25%-49% paved area removed Redesign of existing impermeable surfaces and/or installation of permeable surfaces (e.g. permeable pavement and infiltration trenches)	Installation of vegetated landscape – 50%-74% paved area removed Improvements of soil health (e.g., compaction reduction)	Installation of vegetated landscape – 75%-100% paved area removed Creation of well-connected and self-sustained natural landscapes with healthy soils, permeable surfaces, and appropriate vegetation
Protection of Undeveloped Mountains & Floodplains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preservation of native vegetation</li> <li>• Minimal negative impact to existing drainage system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preservation of native vegetation</li> <li>• Installation of new feature(s) to improve existing drainage system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of open green space</li> <li>• Installation of features to improve natural hydrology</li> </ul>
Creation & Restoration of Riparian Habitat & Wetlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partial restoration of existing riparian habitat and wetlands</li> <li>• Planting of climate appropriate vegetation - between 11 and 20 different climate-appropriate or native plant species newly planted</li> <li>• No potable water used to sustain the wetland</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full restoration of existing riparian habitat and wetlands</li> <li>• Planting of native vegetation - between 21 and 40 different native plant species newly planted</li> <li>• No potable water used to sustain the wetland</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full restoration and expansion of existing riparian habitat and wetlands</li> <li>Planting of plant communities with a diversity of native vegetation – between 41 and 50 different native plant species newly planted</li> <li>• No potable water used to sustain the wetland</li> </ul>

New Landscape Elements	Elements designed to capture runoff for other simple usage (e.g. rain gardens and cisterns), capturing the 85th percentile 24-hour storm event for at least 50% of the entire parcel	Elements that design to capture/redirect runoff and filter pollution (e.g. bioswales and parkway basins), capturing the 85th percentile 24-hour storm event from the entire parcel	Large sized elements that capture and treat runoff to supplement or replace existing water systems (e.g. wetlands, daylighting streams, groundwater infiltration, floodplain reclamation), capturing the 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile 24-hour storm event from the entire parcel and/or capturing off-site runoff
Enhancement of Soil	Use of soil amendments such as mulch and compost to retain moisture in the soil and prevent erosion Planting of new climate-appropriate vegetation to enhance soil organic matter	Use of soil amendments such as mulch and compost that are locally generated to retain moisture in the soil, prevent erosion, and support locally based composting and other soil enhancement activities Planting of new native, climate-appropriate vegetation to enhance soil organic matter	Use of soil amendments such as mulch and compost that are locally generated, especially use of next-generation design with regenerative adsorbents (e.g. woodchips, biochar) to retain moisture in the soil, prevent erosion, and support on-site composting and other soil enhancement activities Planting of new native, climate appropriate vegetation to enhance soil organic matter



## EXHIBIT D – OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Municipalities shall operate and maintain infrastructure projects for the useful life of the project and are to consider using the following guidance for operations and maintenance for infrastructure projects. Operational maintenance is the care and upkeep of Projects that may require detailed technical knowledge of the Project's function and design. Project specific operational and maintenance plans shall consider the activities listed below and set forth specific activities and frequencies (not limited to those below) as determined to be appropriate by the Municipalities and best practices, including stakeholder engagement as applicable. Operational maintenance is to be performed by the operator of the Project with a purpose to make the operator aware of the state of readiness of the Project to deliver stormwater and urban runoff benefits.

### 1. Litter Control

- Regular removal of litter, nonhazardous waste materials, and accumulated debris near planted areas, rock areas, decomposed granite areas, rest areas, fence perimeters, adjoining access roads and driveways, drains, pedestrian trails, viewing stations, shelter houses, and bicycle pathways.
- Regular inspection and maintenance of pet waste stations
- Maintaining trash receptacles
- Removal of trash, debris, and blockages from bioswales
- Inspection and cleaning of trash booms
- Inspection of weir gates and stop logs to clean debris, as required.

### 2. Vegetation Maintenance

- Weed control
  - Recognition and removal of weeds, such as perennial weeds, morning glory, vine-type weeds, ragweed, and other underground spreading weeds.
  - Avoiding activities that result in weed seed germination (e.g. frequent soil cultivation near trees or shrubs)
  - Regular removal of weeds from landscape areas, including from berms, painted areas, rock areas, gravel areas, pavement cracks along access roads and driveways, drains, pedestrian trails, viewing stations, park shelters, and bicycle paths.
- Tree and shrubbery trimming and care
  - Removal of dead trees and elimination of diseased/damaged growth
  - Prevent encroachment of adjacent property and provide vertical clearance
  - Inspect for dead or diseased plants regularly
- Wetland vegetation and landscape maintenance
  - Installation and maintenance of hydrophytic and emergent plants in perennially wet and seasonal, intermittent habitats.
  - Draining and drawdown of wetland and excessive bulrush removal

- Weed and nuisance plant control
- Removal of aquatic vegetation (e.g. algae and primrose) using appropriate watercraft and harvesting equipment
- Wildflower and meadow maintenance
- Grass, sedge, and yarrow management
- Removal of unwanted hydroseed

3. Wildlife Management

- Exotic species control
- Provide habitat management; promote growth of plants at appropriate densities and promote habitat structure for animal species
- Protect sensitive animal species (e.g. protection during critical life stages including breeding and migration)
- Avoid disturbances to nesting birds
- Avoid spread of invasive aquatic species

4. Facility Inspection

- Inspect project sites for rodent and insect infestations on a regular basis
- Inspect for and report graffiti in shelter houses, viewing stations, benches, paving surfaces, walls, fences, and educational and directional signs
- Inspect facilities for hazardous conditions on roads and trails (e.g. access roads and trails, decomposed granite pathways, and maintenance roads)
- Inspect shade structures for structural damage or defacement
- Inspect hardscapes
- Inspect and maintain interpretive and informational signs
- Inspect site furnishings (e.g. benches, hitching posts, bicycle racks)
- Maintain deck areas (e.g. benches, signs, decking surfaces)
- Visually inspect weirs and flap gates for damage; grease to prevent locking.
- Inspect all structures after major storm events, periodically inspect every 3 months, and operate gates through full cycles to prevent them from locking up.

5. Irrigation System Management

- Ensuring automatic irrigation controllers are functioning properly and providing various plant species with proper amount of water.
  - Cycle controller(s) through each station manually and automatically to determine if all facets are functioning properly.
  - Inspection should be performed at least monthly.
  - Recover, replace, or refasten displaced or damaged valve box covers.
  - Inspect and repair bubbler heads.



- Repair and replace broken drip lines or emitters causing a loss of water (to prevent ponding and erosion).
  - Maintain drip system filters to prevent emitters from clogging. Inspection and cleaning should occur at least monthly.
  - Inspect and clean mainline filters, wye strainers, basket filters, and filters at backflow devices twice a year.
  - Maintain and check function of the drip system.
- Keeping irrigation control boxes clear of vegetation
  - Operating irrigation system to ensure it does not cause excessively wet, waterlogged areas, and slope failure
  - Utilizing infrequent deep watering techniques to encourage deep rooting, drought tolerant plant characteristics to promote a self-sustaining, irrigation free landscape
  - Determine watering schedules based on season, weather, variation in plant size, and plant varieties. At least four times a year (e.g. change of season), reschedule controller systems.
  - Turn off irrigation systems at the controller at the beginning of the rainy season, or when the soil has a high enough moisture content.
  - Use moisture sensing devices to determine water penetration in soil.

6. Erosion Management and Control

- Inspect slopes for erosion during each maintenance activity
- Inspect basins for erosion
- Take corrective measures as needed, including filling eroded surfaces, reinstalling or extending bank protection, and replanting exposed soil.

7. Ongoing Monitoring Activities

- Monitor controllable intake water flow and water elevation
- Examine inflow and outflow structures to ensure devices are functioning properly and are free of obstructions.
- Water quality sampling (quarterly, unless justified otherwise)
- Checking telemetry equipment
- Tracking and reporting inspection and maintenance records

8. Vector and Nuisance Insect Control

- Monitoring for the presence of vector and nuisance insect species
- Adequate pretreatment of influent wastewater to lessen production of larval mosquitos
- Managing emergent vegetation
- Using hydraulic control structures to rapidly dewater emergent marsh areas
- Managing flow velocities to reduce propagation of vectors

The Safe, Clean Water Program (SCW Program) provides local, dedicated funding to increase regional water supply, improve water quality, and enhance communities throughout Los Angeles County Flood Control District Boundaries. The SCW Program is organized into three sub-programs, each of which support SCW Program Goals in different ways. These sub-programs are the Regional Program, Municipal Program, and the District Program. As part of the ongoing adaptive management of the SCW Program, this 2022 Interim Guidance (Guidance) has been developed by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, with extensive input from stakeholders, for the following areas:

- Strengthening Community Engagement and Support
- Water Supply
- Programming Nature Based Solutions
- Implementing Disadvantaged Community Policies in the Regional Program

For each of these areas, specific guidance documents have been developed to summarize existing SCW Program information, establish a shared vocabulary as part of the SCW Program, include information related to best practices, and provide additional clarity on select issues that have been raised through SCW Program implementation to date. This guidance has been developed primarily to support the Regional Program call for projects, scoring, and Stormwater Investment Plan processes; however, information may be of value for the Municipal and District Programs as well.

Additional issues warranting further guidance may be considered in the future. The next round of guidance may incorporate, as appropriate, findings of the District-led Metrics and Monitoring Study and the associated Disadvantaged Community and Community Enhancement White Paper (currently anticipated to be completed in late 2023), as well as ongoing work with Watershed Coordinators, the Watershed Area Steering Committees, and WHAM coordination efforts, among others. As such, the next round of updated guidance is currently anticipated in 2024.



# Safe, Clean Water Program 2022 Interim Guidance

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## Strengthening Community Engagement and Support

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### Purpose

Community outreach, meaningful engagement, and the pursuit and attainment of community support are important tools for ensuring that Safe, Clean Water Program (SCW Program) projects and expenditures deliver tangible *and* welcomed benefits on the ground. While such engagement is already “required,” experience to date has shown that there is additional guidance needed related to the details of community engagement and the desired evidence of community support required of every Project proponent and every recipient of Regional Program funds.

Community engagement is a key element of the SCW Program that is woven through many different aspects of the Regional Program, Municipal Program, and District Programs; however, it is not an explicitly listed goal of the SCW Program. The focus of this 2022 Interim Guidance is about community engagement for, and in support of, Infrastructure Projects submitted for the Regional Program. Nonetheless, key principles here can help provide some common terminology and backdrop for other existing programs and complimentary language.

Projects submitted for inclusion in Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) must document any community engagement prior to submittal and describe plans for engagement during Project implementation. Resources, like Watershed Coordinators and/or the Technical Resources Program may support proponents with community engagement prior to the award of funding. Even so, completing community engagement and/or providing sufficient evidence of community support prior to receiving funding can be challenging for many applicants. Further, community engagement does not guarantee community support, and a strong demonstration of community support may not necessarily be the result of engagement.

# SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance

## Strengthening Community Engagement and Support



This 2022 Interim Guidance is intended to consolidate the existing requirements and encouragements for community engagement in the SCW Program, and, at a high level, support SIP programming by providing information to help:

- Project Developers with early project development/engagement and application preparation
- The Scoring Committee and Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs) consistently employ decision-making tools and strategies (both quantitative and qualitative) to inform scoring and/or the development of SIP recommendations.

Specifically, this 2022 Interim includes the following:

1. **Engagement Prior to Application:** Policies for establishing and documenting that community engagement has occurred (and to what level) and/or support for a Project exists (and to what level).
2. **Engagement Plan for Project Implementation:** Clarification of how Project proponents and WASCs can interpret and substantiate commitment to Community Engagement once a project is funded and being implemented.

Note that additional guidance may be provided following development of a white paper by third-party experts (University of California, Los Angeles [UCLA]) focused on Disadvantaged Community Benefits and Community Engagement (anticipated to be completed in 2022) and/or the overarching Metrics and Monitoring Study that houses this white paper effort, which is currently in progress by the District (anticipated to be completed in 2023).

### Existing Community Outreach and Engagement Policies and Requirements in the SCW Program

It is important to note that there are multiple policies related to Community Outreach and Engagement in the SCW Program documents. A number of these policies are presented below.

For the Regional Program, the Feasibility Study Guidelines require that:

- A Feasibility Study must include “A plan for outreach/engagement to solicit, address, and incorporate stakeholder input on the Project, which should also address issues related to displacement and gentrification.” (Section 2.0).
- Regional Program applicants can receive up to 4 points from the Scoring Committee if the project “demonstrates strong local, community-based support and/or has been developed as part of a partnership with local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs).” This aspect of project development is not required, and how points are awarded between 0 and 4 is currently at the discretion of the Scoring Committee depending on the information provided by the proponent.
  - Note that the SCW Projects Module currently requests that if strong local, community-based support is to be considered for scoring, then the supporting organization(s), description of the support, and an optional supporting PDF should be uploaded to substantiate the level of engagement/support.

# SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance

## Strengthening Community Engagement and Support



- A Feasibility Study must include the following if the applicant intends to receive points for community support, “A discussion of whether the Project has community-based support and/or has been developed as part of a partnership with local non-governmental organizations or community-based organizations.” (Section 3.5).

In addition to specific requirements for the Feasibility Study Guidelines, community engagement is woven through many other components of the SCW Program related to Regional Program activities:

- Watershed Coordinators as part of the Regional Program Technical Resources Program.
- The District Education Program, including “Public education and community engagement Programs throughout the District, including a sustained education and engagement Program for disadvantaged communities.”
- Municipal Program Implementation, including to “Identify or establish, and then execute, a plan to engage with Stakeholders in the planning process for use of the Municipal Program funds during the planning and implementation of Projects and Programs.”

### SCW Program Fund Transfer Agreements in the Regional and Municipal Programs

Recipients of SCW Program funding in the Regional and Municipal Programs do not receive funds until they execute a fund Transfer Agreement, within which are several expectations relative to community engagement in Project design, implementation, and reporting.

Regional Program recipients “shall submit a Stakeholder and Community Outreach/Engagement Plan for Infrastructure Program Projects and include a discussion of how local NGOs or CBOs will be involved, if applicable, and if not, why. Additional outreach/engagement activities, even if funded by other sources, should be referenced to provide an overview of anticipated overall project approach.” Section A-8 (Stakeholder and Community Outreach/Engagement Plan) of the Regional Program Transfer Agreement has additional requirements for the Stakeholder and Community Outreach/Engagement Plan.

Below is the language addressing community outreach activities and community engagement activities in the Regional Program Transfer Agreement:

### Community Outreach Activities in the Regional Program

“Community outreach activities to provide information to residents and information about upcoming meetings or other engagement activity event is to be scheduled. Outreach methods used should be appropriate in scale and type to the community being served. Outreach methods include but are not limited to:

- Online Media Outreach (email blasts, social media, publication on a website)
- Local Media Outreach (newsletters, local and regional newspapers, and local radio and television)
- Grassroots Outreach (door-to-door canvassing, phone banking, surveys and focus groups, and distribution of flyers or other printed materials).

The District will support outreach efforts through web-based platforms if requested at least four weeks prior to the requested publish date. The District should be included in all social media outreach and notified of all meetings and other engagement events.”

### Community Engagement Activities

“Community engagement activities solicit, address, and incorporate input from community members for Funded Activities. These events may occur as part of any public meeting with multiple agenda items such as council, commission, or committee meetings where public input is invited; or at festivals, fairs, or open houses where a table or booth may be set up.”

Section A-8.3 of the Transfer Agreement specifies minimum required outreach/engagement activities for Infrastructure Program Project Funding, including that “Stakeholder and Community Outreach/Engagement Plan activities should occur at the onset of the project, during the design phase, and during construction.”

*Table 1. Excerpt table from the Section A-8.3 of the Transfer Agreement*

Infrastructure Program Funds	Required Activity 1	Required Activity 2
Up to \$2 M	Outreach or Engagement	
Up to \$10 M	Outreach	≥ 1 Engagement
Over \$10 M	Outreach	≥ 2 Engagements

Section A-8.4 states that “If the funded activity is for O&M of an Infrastructure Program Project, Outreach/Engagement activities shall occur biennially to remind communities of the SCW Program Contribution.”

In addition, Section A-8.5 states that the plan must include “Activities and measures to mitigate against displacement and gentrification. This includes, as applicable, an acknowledgement that the Funded Activity will be fully subject to and comply with any County-wide displacement policies as well as with any specific anti-displacement requirements associated with other funding sources.”

### Interim Regional Program Guidance for Community Engagement and Support

In addition to the policies and requirements listed above, some Interim Guidance to be considered primarily by Project proponents and WASCs is presented below.

#### Expectations for Community Engagement by Project Phase

Sustained engagement to solicit, address, and incorporate stakeholder input on the Project, including issues related to displacement and gentrification, should occur throughout all phases of a Project. All outreach and engagement activities, even if funded by other sources, should be referenced to provide an overview of anticipated overall Project approach. The goals and expectations for level of community engagement may vary based on timing and the current phase of the Project. Project applicants are strongly encouraged to seek input from Watershed Coordinators to achieve desired goals based on Project phase. Please refer to the Watershed Coordinator webpage for more information<sup>1</sup>.

#### Project Planning Phase

During the planning phase, the desired outcome of community engagement is to identify stakeholders and involve them in identifying community needs, concerns, and objectives, as well as the potential solutions. At a minimum, Project Applicants should identify stakeholders and Inform/Consult stakeholders prior to submittal of the application (see *Table 2* below, which should be used to standardize terminology and qualitatively identify levels of engagement at each project phase). Resources for community engagement prior to submittal of the application should be prioritized and secured utilizing other available funds, as applicable, including Municipal Program funds if the applicant is a municipality. If such resources did not exist prior to submittal of the application, a clear description of the limitations should be included by the Project Applicant along with a description of any planned efforts to procure future resources for these important planning activities. The funding needed for additional engagement efforts, whether for additional planning or future phases, can be included in the SCW Program funding request and submitted as part of the application.

#### Design Phase

During the design phase, the desired outcome of community engagement includes further solicitation, evaluation, and incorporation of stakeholder input, as applicable and able, such that Project decision making is done iteratively and equitably. This includes active education about Project benefits. Refer to section A-8.3 of the Transfer Agreement for minimum required outreach/engagement activities based in Infrastructure Program Project Funding (see *Table 2* above).

The following graphic provides the information and tips presented as part of the call for projects for Year 3 (FY22-23) with an example of a well-scoring Project for community engagement and support. For the Urban Orchard example, the Project was included in the FY21-22 SIP allocating \$5,438,000 over 5 years for Construction and O&M. The completed scoring rubric for the Project is available on the SCW website<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Watershed Coordinators <https://safecleanwaterla.org/watershed-coordinators/>

<sup>2</sup> Urban Orchard Scoring Rubric (pg 17) <https://safecleanwaterla.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Scoring-Rubric-FY21-22-20210127-FULL.pdf>





## Scoring Criteria – Community Support

### Definition

- Support from and/or partnerships with the local community as a result of engagement throughout project development.

### Tips

- Remember: outreach TO communities is different from support **FROM** or partnerships **WITH** communities.
- When showing community support, provide evidence of **partnerships with NGOs, or compelling evidence** that project enjoys **widespread community support** (e.g., multiple letters of support from diverse constituencies within the community; public polling; documentation that the community helped inform the project).

### Examples

#### Urban Orchard Project

Support includes:

- 39 community meetings, focus groups, and tabling events.
- 986 community members engaged.
- Bilingual community outreach throughout entire project process.
- 7 letters of support from community members, Speaker of the CA State Assembly, and NGOS.

1

Figure 1. Excerpt from the Year 3 Call for Projects Information Session on June 3, 2021

### Construction Phase through Monitoring and Operations and Maintenance Phases

During and following the construction phase, the desired outcomes of community engagement are to realize effective partnerships, maintain relationships and sustained education, and communicate/recognize Project progress and Project benefits in order to best prepare for the success of long-term maintenance, monitoring, and/or plans for future Project phases. Project developers are already required to report on activities through the funded duration of the project. Project developers can refer to *Table 2* for best practices.

### Best Practices for Community Education and Engagement

Below is a table outlining best practices for conducting outreach and engagement for the SCW Program and helping ensure equity, inclusion, and accessibility. These best practices, and the corresponding terminology, are derived from professional standards, guidance/input received to date, benchmarking, and existing analyses from Cities, non-profit experts, and other project developers and stakeholder groups. Some of these resources include the Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership, originally developed by Rosa González of Facilitating Power in partnership with Movement Strategy Center<sup>3</sup> and the Principios y Comunidad: Principals that Redefine Strategies & Approaches for Impactful Community Engagement by Mujeres de la Tierra<sup>4</sup>. These guidelines/terms may be applied to all aspects of the SCW Program, including Regional Program Project applicants, Watershed Coordinator efforts, and planning/reporting in the Municipal Program. SCW Program projects should ultimately target the “Best” category at all project phases. Those claiming “Better” or “Best” engagement practices should also

<sup>3</sup> <https://movementstrategy.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/The-Spectrum-of-Community-Engagement-to-Ownership.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://safecleanwaterla.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/FINAL-Principios-y-Comunidad-Report-2020-2.pdf>

demonstrate the incorporation of listed examples from the lower categories when documenting their justification of completed or planned outreach and engagement.

*Table 2. Best practices for conducting outreach and engagement*

	Good	Better	Best
<b>Engagement Levels</b>	<p><b>Inform</b> - Provide the community with relevant information</p> <p><b>Consult</b> - Gather input from the Community</p>	<p><b>Involve</b> - Ensure community input, needs, and assets are integrated into processes, receive demonstrable consideration and appropriate responses, and inform planning</p> <p><b>Educate</b> – Grow community understanding of the existing infrastructure systems, purposes, perceived outstanding needs, pertinent history and regulations, SCW Program opportunities (including Watershed Coordinators) to establish</p> <p><b>Learn</b> – Grow own understanding of existing community, perceived needs, pertinent history, key concerns, and other potentially interested parties.</p>	<p><b>Collaborate</b> - Leverage and grow community capacity to play a leadership role in both planning and implementation</p> <p><b>Incorporate</b> - Foster democratic participation and equity by including the community in decision-making, bridge divide between community and governance</p> <p><b>Partner</b> – Establish certain project concepts based on community-driven and identified needs, solidify formal partnerships, and build in sustained paths forward to joint implementation and management with well-defined roles per agreement</p>
<b>Example Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fact Sheets with translation as needed</li> <li>• Open Houses</li> <li>• Presentations</li> <li>• Videos</li> <li>• Online Media</li> <li>• Social Media</li> <li>• Local Media</li> <li>• Listening Sessions</li> <li>• Public Comment</li> <li>• Focus Groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• House Meetings</li> <li>• Interactive Workshops &amp; Tours</li> <li>• Community Forums</li> <li>• Canvassing</li> <li>• Transparent responses to community comments</li> <li>• Document expanded understanding and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOUs or support letters with Community Based Organizations</li> <li>• MOUs or support letters with Tribes affected by the Project</li> <li>• MOUs or support letters from Elected Officials</li> <li>• Community Organizing</li> <li>• Citizen Advocacy Committees</li> </ul>

# SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance

## Strengthening Community Engagement and Support



	Good	Better	Best
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Surveys</li><li>• Polling</li></ul>	commitment to ongoing relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Open Planning Forums with Citizen Polling</li><li>• Community-Driven Planning</li><li>• Consensus Building</li><li>• Participatory Action Research</li><li>• Participatory Budgeting</li><li>• Cooperatives</li><li>• Volunteerism activities</li><li>• Workforce Development activities</li></ul>

Project Developers, the Scoring Committee and WASCs may also refer to additional references that can help suggest certain types of documentation and supplement discussions/evaluations based on Table 2 above. One such reference is the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure (ISI) Envision Manual, section LD1.3 that includes a scale of Improved to Restorative to characterize levels of engagement. There is also guidance and examples related to evaluation criteria and documentation for engagement (e.g., stakeholder lists, engagement plans, letters of support, meeting minutes, memoranda, etc.) See [Attachment A - Envision Manual, section LD1.3 Provide for Stakeholder Involvement](#) for more information.

Additional best practices for effective and inclusive community outreach and engagement include:

- Project Proponents should provide a reasonable budget for outreach/engagement activities that aligns with the outreach/engagement plan. These costs can be included in the SCW Program funding request or funded by other sources and should acknowledge/account for any specific needs or focuses during certain project phases. Budgets for Projects included in the SIP are included in the Project Applications which are accessible via the SCW Portal<sup>5</sup>.
- Communicate early and often with your respective Watershed Coordinator (information available on webpage)
- Engage with elected representatives of communities to benefit from existing conversations, relationships, and planning efforts.
- Leverage existing relationships in the community and the outreach/engagement expertise of local Community Based Organizations/Non-Governmental Organizations.
- Establish meaningful dialogue early in the project timeline with both federally recognized and non-federally recognized Tribes that are or may be affected by the proposed project in an early and ongoing process with a basis of mutual respect and recognition of consultation capacity and needs

<sup>5</sup> SCW Portal <https://portal.safecleanwaterla.org/scw-reporting/map>

- Use outreach and engagement methods that are appropriate in scale and type to the community being served (e.g., neighborhood-specific, family-focused, culturally appropriate, etc.).
- Review recent engagement efforts undertaken by others with the same community to become familiar with community goals and wishes. Ensure new engagement honors other recent contributions made by the community.
- Coordinate with partner educational, non-profit, and governmental entities to prevent community meeting fatigue and frustration about redundant meetings.
- Support awareness of outreach/engagement events through multiple platforms (Online Media, Local Media, Grassroots Outreach, etc.).
- Inform the community at least one week prior and send reminders a day or two before the event.
- Draft language that is plain, clear, and relatable.
- Provide necessary information and materials in the primary languages spoken in the community.
- Provide Project team training and consider utilizing residents from the local community.
- Consider transportation options for community members who do not own vehicles or holding community outreach and engagement activities where the community already meets.
- Consider virtual or online meetings to increase access to information and participation. If an online approach is taken, consider the digital divide for community members who do not have reliable access to the internet.
- Refer to <https://www.redesign.la/resources> for community events/engagements that are being coordinated with the Watershed Coordinator efforts.

Whenever possible, community support documentation should address specific SCW Program benefits and goals including, but not limited to, water quality, water supply, and community investment benefits, as well as anti-displacement efforts, benefits to disadvantaged communities, nature-based solutions, and the needs of the community. To achieve points for Community Support at the discretion of the Scoring Committee, documentation may include, but is not limited to:

- Letters from involved community leaders, NGOs/CBOs, individuals, tribal representatives, and elected representatives stating their support for the Project
- Minutes from meetings, including attendees and their affiliations (if applicable), photos, flyers, or other documentation
- Community engagement plans that incorporate best practices described herein
- Letters of support from CBO/NGOs explaining how they contributed to shaping the proposed project
- Verification that the benefits provided directly address identified community needs such as a summary of community concerns and how the concerns were addressed. If particular community concerns were not addressed by the project, please provide a discussion of why those concerns could not be addressed.

### WASC and SC Tools and Strategies

The following strategies are available to the members of WASCs and Scoring Committee to assist in evaluating Community Engagement and Support:

#### Tools and strategies to evaluate Community Engagement and Support that WASC and Scoring Committee members can use:

- Read the justification provided in the application, submitted Feasibility Study, and scoring rubric about Community Engagement and Support for the Project.
- During presentations by Project proponents or SC evaluations, ask questions about the Community Engagement and Support for the Project.
- Ask Watershed Coordinator(s) to evaluate and report to the WASC how the people, city and county agencies, and other stakeholders would describe community needs, concerns, and objectives in the Watershed Area.

### Long-Term Vision for Strengthening Community Engagement and Support

In the near term, the District has enlisted third-party experts from the University of California Los Angeles to assist in creating additional guidance for the SCW Program community engagement. This information is anticipated to be available in 2022 and may be used to assist with the planning and execution of engagement activities by Project proponents as well as evaluation of Projects.

Future guidance is currently expected to consider the following:

1. **Refinement or Additions to 2022 Interim Guidance:** This may include, but is not limited to, further refinement of best practices related to community and tribal engagement as well as documentation and demonstration of community outreach, engagement, and support. This could include additional processes to engage Indigenous and tribal communities in collaboration with the California Native American Heritage Commission and building on the precedent set by the County's sustainability consultation process.
2. **Regional Program Scoring:** Assessment of potential adjustments to scoring as part of comprehensive scoring review following MMS and robust stakeholder processes.
3. **Establish and Refine Metrics:** Metrics and indicators for evaluating community engagement efforts over time to inform adaptive management as well as to evaluate projects and overall SCW Program equity.
4. **Incorporate Community Needs:** Assess techniques/tools for WASCs supported by watershed coordinators, or project proponents, for establishing community wishes, that include both strengths to be reinforced and needs to be addressed.
5. **Integration Across SCW Program:** Ensure that Regional Program processes and preferences are appropriately integrated with the implementation of the Municipal Program, Watershed Coordinators, and District Programs, including the District Education Program. Integration with the guidance for Implementing Disadvantaged Community Policies in the Regional Program.

6. **Integration Across WHAM:** Establish processes to collaborate early with other funding programs to evaluate opportunities and maximize benefits in addition to SCW Program objectives.

The SCW Program is an evolving program and as such will be adaptively managed. This guidance will be revisited on a periodic basis, with the next round of updates currently anticipated in 2024, which will include findings of the District-led Metrics and Monitoring Study and the associated Disadvantaged Community and Community Enhancement White Paper (anticipated to be completed in late 2023), and will be informed by questions raised and lessons learned through program implementation.



## LD1.3 Provide for Stakeholder Involvement

18

POINTS

## INTENT

Early and sustained stakeholder engagement and involvement in project decision making.

## METRIC

Establishment of sound and meaningful programs for stakeholder identification, early and sustained engagement, and involvement in project decision making.

## LEVELS OF ACHIEVEMENT

IMPROVED	ENHANCED	SUPERIOR	CONSERVING	RESTORATIVE
A + B	A + B + C	A + B + C + D	A + B + C + D + E	A + B + C + D + E + F
(3) Active Engagement	(6) Direct Engagement	(9) Community Involvement	(14) Community Satisfaction	(18) Stakeholder Partnerships
(A) Primary and secondary stakeholders are identified through a stakeholder mapping process. Stakeholder concerns and specific objectives for stakeholder engagement are defined.				
(B) A proactive stakeholder engagement process is established with clear objectives. This occurs at the earliest stages of planning and is sustained through project construction. Engagement moves beyond education into active dialogue. Stakeholder views are monitored, and a two-way line of communication is established to reply to inquiries. Sufficient opportunities are provided for stakeholders to be involved in decision making. The participation process is transparent with opportunities to provide meaningful input.				
(C) A lead person from the project team, in addition to any public involvement lead or manager, works with stakeholder groups to understand communication needs and the desire for and scope of involvement.				
(D) There are specific cases in which public input influenced or validated project outcomes. Potentially conflicting stakeholder views were evaluated and addressed equitably during decision making.				
(E) Feedback is sought from stakeholders as to their satisfaction with the engagement process, and the resulting decisions were made based on their input.				
(F) One or more stakeholders, having mutual interests or interdependencies, are identified and engaged as partners.				

## DESCRIPTION

This credit addresses the public input process established by the owner and the project team. Relationship building among the public and key stakeholders is an important component of the engagement process. Stakeholder engagement is a critical component of any infrastructure project. While many projects incorporate some level of stakeholder engagement, this credit assesses the degree to which stakeholder engagement was proactive, early, and sustained.

Project teams that do not proactively engage stakeholders risk failing to notice demographic, socioeconomic, or cultural shifts within the community that may impact the overall success of the project. Proactive, early, and sustained stakeholder engagement helps owners and project teams earn a social license to operate. Social license to operate is the acceptance of the community developed through mutual respect and can build goodwill, speed projects, and smooth the way for future projects.

Project teams should consider how a significant number of Envision credits rely on documentation from a robust stakeholder

engagement process and how incorporating these criteria into the stakeholder engagement plan can meet multiple requirements.

## PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT

**Improved:** A public participation process is set up to identify and engage key stakeholders in project decision making. Project stakeholders may include local communities, customers, employees, governments and regulators, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), etc. For this credit, stakeholders are categorized as primary or secondary. Primary stakeholders are individuals or groups directly impacted by the project, and secondary stakeholders are individuals or groups indirectly affected by the project.

The stakeholder engagement process includes informing stakeholders of the scope of the project, identification of stakeholder issues and concerns, collecting feedback, and incorporating that feedback into the design, construction, and operation of the project.



**Enhanced:** A member of the project team is directly engaged with stakeholders.

**Superior:** The project can demonstrate that the two-way communication established with stakeholders was successful and resulted in benefits to the project. Project teams demonstrate that consideration was given even to conflicting stakeholder feedback (i.e., the project team was not biased toward feedback that supported or reinforced their initial assumptions).

**Conserving:** Engagement becomes an opportunity to learn and improve for future projects. Stakeholder feedback is sought regarding their satisfaction with the process.

**Restorative:** Stakeholders are engaged as partners in the project.

**Applicability:** It is likely that all projects can benefit from stakeholder engagement. Although the types and scope of stakeholders may vary depending on the project, it would be difficult to demonstrate that the credit is not relevant or applicable to a project seeking an Envision award.

## EVALUATION CRITERIA AND DOCUMENTATION GUIDANCE

### A. To what extent has the project team undertaken a stakeholder mapping exercise to determine stakeholders?

1. *Comprehensive list of potential stakeholders identified, with stakeholder classification (primary or secondary) and a statement or rationale for selection.*
  - a. *Primary stakeholders are individuals or groups directly impacted by the project, such as the communities crossed and served by a new road. This should include stakeholders who could be impacted or affected by the project during its life-cycle.*
  - b. *Secondary stakeholders are individuals or groups indirectly affected by the project.*
2. *Evidence that stakeholders were identified and prioritized in a fair and equitable fashion.*

### B. To what extent has the project team analyzed, planned, and executed the engagement for key project stakeholders?

1. *Engagement plans for each stakeholder that consider the issues the project team needs to address and the method(s) of engagement (e.g., some stakeholders may require only one-way communication, while others may require dialogue and partnership-building engagement such as consultations, hosting stakeholder advisory panels, soliciting online feedback, hosting multi-stakeholder forums and partnerships, and/or convening networks of stakeholders).*
  - a. *Stakeholder engagement plans should be proactive. This would be characterized by outreach and a determination to involve those who will be affected by, or are very likely to have an active interest in, the project, as opposed to passive invitations to participation such as public notices with little or no follow-up to ensure a robust response.*
  - b. *Engagement moves beyond education into active dialogue. Stakeholder views are monitored, and a two-way line of communication is established to reply to inquiries.*
  - c. *Sufficient opportunities are provided for stakeholders to be involved in decision making. The participation process is transparent with opportunities to provide meaningful input.*

2. *Documentation of engagement, which may include letters, meeting minutes, or memoranda with stakeholders. Documentation shows the issues that were addressed with stakeholders and their concerns/feedback specific to the project.*

### C. Was a lead member of the project team directly involved with stakeholder groups to understand their needs?

1. *Documentation that a lead person from the project team, in addition to any public involvement lead or manager, worked with stakeholder groups to understand communication needs and the desire for and scope of involvement.*

### D. To what extent has stakeholder engagement feedback been incorporated into project plans, design, and/or decision making?

1. *Documentation showing that feedback raised by stakeholders was evaluated and prioritized and how feedback changed/impacted/ altered the project plans, design, and/or decision making.*

OR

*Documentation showing how feedback raised by stakeholders was already incorporated into the project plans, design, and/or decision making.*

2. *Supporting evidence that stakeholder feedback was treated fairly and equitably, according to principles of social and environmental justice, regardless of race, color, wealth, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status.*

### E. Has the project team sought feedback from stakeholders as to their satisfaction with the engagement process and the resulting decisions that were made based on their input?

1. *Letters or other documentation showing support from stakeholders for the engagement process undertaken for this project.*
2. *Letters or other documentation showing support from stakeholders for the decisions that were made based on their input.*
3. *In certain cases, documentation may also demonstrate an absence of significant new stakeholder issues arising as the project advances to final design and construction.*

### F. Has the project engaged one or more stakeholders as partners?

1. *Documentation that one or more stakeholders, having mutual interests or interdependencies, are identified and engaged as partners.*

## RELATED ENVISION CREDITS

- QL1.1 Improve Community Quality of Life
- QL1.4 Minimize Noise and Vibration
- QL2.1 Improve Community Mobility and Access
- QL3.1 Advance Equity and Social Justice
- QL3.2 Preserve Historic and Cultural Resources
- QL3.3 Enhance Views and Local Character
- QL3.4 Enhance Public Space and Amenities
- LD2.4 Plan for End-of-Life



## Water Supply Guidance

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### Purpose

Los Angeles Flood Control District Code states that one of the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCW Program) Goals is to “increase drought preparedness by capturing more Stormwater and/or Urban Runoff to store, clean, reuse, and/or recharge groundwater basins” (Section 18.04.B). Benefits associated with this goal are referred to as **Water Supply Benefits**. Experience in the SCW Program to date has highlighted the need for additional guidance around Water Supply Benefits. This need was apparent based on two factors:

- A broad range of proponent, committee member, and stakeholder interpretations and/or desires regarding what could and should count as a Water Supply Benefit.
- The need to address issues that stem from the variability in potential for projects that provide Water Supply Benefits throughout the District due to factors like hydrogeology, condition of groundwater aquifers, connection to/capacity of existing infrastructure, dependency on future infrastructure, among others.
  - *Note: It’s important to acknowledge that projects within a Watershed Area that is believed to have less Water Supply Benefit opportunity are all facing the same situation, and are competing only amongst one another (not against projects from other watershed areas).*

The refinement of how Water Supply Benefits are applied within the context of the SCW Program was also explored at the Regional Oversight Committee in early 2021. This 2022 Interim Guidance accounts for all discussions to date, as able, and seeks to help project proponents and decision-making bodies develop and consistently evaluate projects that claim to provide Water Supply Benefits.

Specifically, this 2022 Interim Guidance:

1. Establishes a shared vocabulary for considering Water Supply Benefits;
2. Clarifies how a Project developer or applicant should characterize Water Supply Benefits in relation to the Feasibility Study Guidelines and Scoring Criteria;
3. Provides guidance to the Scoring Committee on how projects claiming water supply benefits should be evaluated;
4. Provides guidance to the nine Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs) about how to assess Water Supply Benefits when evaluating Projects and programming recommended SIPs.

This 2022 Interim Guidance focuses on elements within the Regional Program but may also be an important reference for the Municipal Program. This 2022 Interim Guidance is currently anticipated to be refined and updated as part of the adaptive management process, with anticipated input from the District-led Metrics and Monitoring Study.

### Water Supply Benefits in the Safe, Clean Water Program

Los Angeles Flood Control District Code Section 16.03.00: ***“Water Supply Benefit” means an increase in the amount of locally available water supply, provided there is a nexus to Stormwater or Urban Runoff capture. Activities resulting in this benefit include, but are not limited to, the following:***

- *reuse and conservation practices,*
- *diversion of Stormwater or Urban Runoff to a sanitary sewer system for direct or indirect water recycling,*
- *increased groundwater replenishment or available yield, or*
- *offset of potable water use.*

### Regional Program Guidance

#### Scoring and Feasibility Studies via the SCW Program Projects Module

All applicants seeking funding through the Regional Program’s Infrastructure Program must submit a Feasibility Study, or equivalent. Feasibility Studies are given a preliminary “Module Score” by the SCW Program Projects Module, which is then verified by the Scoring Committee. Feasibility Studies which meet or exceed the Threshold Score are considered for programming into SIPs by one of nine WASCs.

#### Known or Perceived Need Addressed by Project

The SCW Program Projects Module asks each Project applicant to identify the known or perceived needs (or desired outcomes) of the community or Watershed Area within which a Project is located, justification of why the Project developer understands those to be needs, and the ways that the Project is anticipated to address those needs and achieve desired outcomes. This question is posed for each of the three SCW Program benefits – Water Supply Benefit, Water Quality Benefit, and Community Investment Benefit.

# SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance

## Water Supply Guidance



While not scored, the identification of needs related to each type of benefit is an important part of the Project narrative that WASC members should evaluate for any individual Project or suite of Projects considered for inclusion in a Stormwater Investment Plan. This is essential for Water Supply Benefits for a variety of reasons, but particularly due to the potential for one project's claimed benefit to be impacted by another that is upstream or downstream of the other, especially in the absence of any coordination prior to project development and planning.

### Points Available for Water Supply Benefits

Scoring criteria in the Feasibility Study Guidelines currently award points for both water supply benefit magnitude (total project capacity for long-term volume captured) and water supply cost effectiveness (total life-cycle cost per acre-foot capture capacity) (25 maximum for Water Supply Benefits out of 110 total points). It should be noted that a project's capacity to capture is not equivalent to a direct water supply end use (see additional Feasibility Study Guideline Provisions below).

See description and point distribution for Water Supply Benefits in the table below.

B. Significant Water Supply Benefits	25 points max	The Project provides water re-use and/or water supply enhancement benefits
	13 points max	<p>B1. Water Supply Cost Effectiveness. The Total Life-Cycle Cost<sup>2</sup> per unit of acre foot of Stormwater and/or Urban Runoff volume captured for water supply is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• &gt;\$2500/ac-ft = 0 points</li><li>• \$2,000–2,500/ac-ft = 3 points</li><li>• \$1500–2,000/ac-ft = 6 points</li><li>• \$1000–1500/ac-ft = 10 points</li><li>• &lt;\$1000/ac-ft = 13 points</li></ul> <p><sup>2</sup>. Total Life-Cycle Cost: The annualized value of all Capital, planning, design, land acquisition, construction, and total life O&amp;M costs for the Project for the entire life span of the Project (e.g. 50-year design life span should account for 50-years of O&amp;M). The annualized cost is used over the present value to provide a preference to Projects with longer life spans.</p>
	12 points max	<p>B2. Water Supply Benefit Magnitude. The yearly additional water supply volume resulting from the Project is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• &lt;25 ac-ft/year = 0 points</li><li>• 25 - 100 ac-ft/year = 2 points</li><li>• 100 - 200 ac-ft/year = 5 points</li><li>• 200 - 300 ac-ft/year = 9 points</li><li>• &gt;300 ac-ft/year = 12 points</li></ul>

### Feasibility Study Guideline Provisions

Project applicants should include the following Water Supply Benefit information in their Feasibility Studies to be awarded points:

- An estimate of (1) the annual average amount of stormwater or urban runoff captured by the Project for reuse onsite and (2) the average annual amount of stormwater or urban runoff captured by the Project to augment water supplies, whether infiltrated or diverted (such as to a spreading facility or to a sanitary sewer for recycled water).
  - The estimate should be based on modeling or other similar approach, with justification.
  - The Feasibility Study should specify whether the Water Supply Benefit claimed will result from offsetting potable demand, increasing water supply, or both (and how). Since not all reuse offsets demand (e.g., if the Project creates new demand), the Feasibility Study should provide an analysis of supply and demand impacts when claiming an offset of potable demand.
  - Stormwater that is treated and released to a storm drain or receiving water should not be considered as reuse.
  - Stormwater that is treated and released to a storm drain or receiving water should not be considered as augmenting the local water supply unless the Project is tributary to a groundwater recharge facility, and/or unless the Project would facilitate the continued recharge of water that would otherwise be prohibited for use in the water supply (e.g., the infiltration of mixed or treated reclaimed or recycled water).
  - Where a Project's Water Supply Benefits include an increase in water supply through soil infiltration, the Feasibility Study should include an engineering analysis demonstrating that the infiltrated water is reaching a managed, usable groundwater aquifer and confirmation that the agency managing the groundwater basin concurs.
  - For Projects that treat and use stormwater to directly offset potable water use through irrigation or similar means, projections of the irrigation demand and use should be included.
  - The estimate of annual average capture should account for the inflow to the Project from the Project capture area, the storage of the Project, and the overflow/bypass during storm events (when capacity is exceeded).
  - The annual average estimate should clearly document the basis for the annual average precipitation/hydrology (e.g., whether a specific year was used as a representative average year with justification, or whether the long-term average was calculated across many years). A minimum of 20-years should be used for the annual average calculations.

- The Feasibility Study must demonstrate that the diverted water would not otherwise be diverted/captured downstream of the Project site (Consistent with the footnote in the existing Feasibility Study Guidelines, Projects that capture water that is already captured downstream can still be submitted and scored to receive water supply points, as applicable and if justified. Public Works will continue to evaluate value added in capturing onsite and/or allowing downstream capacity to remain through the ongoing Metrics and Monitoring Study).
- The Feasibility Study must identify whether and how the 85th percentile storm is being captured/diverted. If the Project will not capture the 85th percentile storm, the Feasibility Study must explain why.
- The nexus between water supply and the Stormwater and/or Urban Runoff that is captured/infiltrated/diverted by the Project should be clearly documented and justified.
- Total life-cycle cost of the Project based on an annualized value.

### New 2022 Interim Guidance to Support Feasibility Study Guideline Provisions

The District acknowledges that projects seeking to achieve Water Supply Benefits in the program face additional challenges when designing, applying, and being evaluated by the program committees and community members. In some Watershed Areas like North Santa Monica Bay (NSMB) for example, there is currently an inability to achieve certain types of meaningful Water Supply Benefits due to hydro-geography. The NSMB Watershed Area Steering Committee has expressed this and other valid concerns, which will be carefully considered by the District moving forward while continuing to promote the incorporation of other meaningful SCW Program benefits and even potential water reuse projects that could be developed to augment reuse supplies during storm events. The following sections are intended to provide some high-level clarity about some of the prominent, uncertain water supply scenarios. Additional guidance is anticipated to be provided in the future.

#### **Scenario 1: Projects in watersheds with existing downstream stormwater capture facilities (or other proposed downstream projects):**

Feasibility studies must demonstrate, to the extent possible, that captured or diverted water would not otherwise be captured downstream of a Project site by an existing stormwater facility, or another concurrently proposed project, to avoid double counting of Water Supply Benefits. Alternatively, justification of value added in capturing or diverting upstream in order to allow downstream capacity to remain, or to provide another substantial benefit, should be included (with concurrence from appropriate parties). Currently the technical tools needed to verify the relationship between two projects across the full range of storm events in an urban watershed are not widely available. For this reason, the Interim Guidance is that:

- Project proponents must complete a good faith effort to establish and describe the relationship to downstream projects, as required by the Feasibility Study, such as development of a stormwater model, references to relevant studies, a letter of concurrence from the downstream project developers, etc.

- The Scoring Committee should consider the fact-based analysis provided by the project proponent.
- The Scoring Committee should be the site of evaluating the relationship between the proposed project, and other downstream projects. Stakeholders or agencies with input about these questions should engage at the Scoring Committee to support decision-making there.

### **Scenario 2: Projects claiming to capture the “first flush” flows that would not be captured by existing facilities or concurrent projects (and therefore would otherwise be wasted to the ocean)**

- In the interim, such projects should demonstrate the benefit of capturing these limited events, including the anticipated capture amount, other factors impacting the scale of the beneficial use, detailed discussion of downstream facilities/projects that are not suited to capture first flush flows, the intended beneficial use, and clear justification of how the proposed efforts to capture first flush flows will not have any adverse impacts (e.g., to water quality, etc.).
- Scoring Committee should use only the first flush flows, substantiated by modeling, to determine Water Supply Benefit.

### **Scenario 3: Projects claiming future Water Supply Benefit due to future projects or infrastructure:**

- Projects cannot receive Water Supply Benefit points for water diverted to a downstream project that is not yet built and operational. The future project may receive Water Supply Benefits from the water diverted to it.

### **Scenario 4: Projects diverting onsite runoff to a sanitary sewer:**

- It can be a challenge to calculate how much volume of the stormwater runoff would reach a water reclamation plant and be converted to locally available water supply. At this time, the full calculated diversion volume will be considered locally available water supply. This may change in the future when a more refined quantitative analysis becomes available.

### **Scenario 5: Projects claiming infiltration of water:**

- For infiltration Projects, it remains difficult to quantify the volume of water (and the time it would take) to reach a managed, usable, groundwater aquifer as locally available water supply. The District is conducting research in partnership with the US Bureau of Reclamation that may provide additional insights for this topic. As Interim Guidance, if a project proponent provides written concurrence from the agency managing the groundwater basin that the project is believed to increase local groundwater supplies, then the project’s full calculated capacity to infiltrated water will be considered by the Scoring Committee and WASCs as a benefit to locally available water supply.



### Evaluating Water Supply Benefits at the WASC

As Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs) develop Stormwater Investments Plans (SIPs), they can benefit from the following strategies in determining the appropriateness of each Project's claim of providing, or not providing, Water Supply Benefits:

#### **Tools and strategies to evaluate Water Supply Benefits that WASC members should use during Project evaluation:**

- Read the justification provided in the application, submitted Feasibility Study, and scoring rubric about Water Supply Benefits claimed for the Project, including how the project creates locally available water supply.
- Where applicable, review applications for assurance that infiltrated water reaches an aquifer managed for beneficial use through demonstration of high infiltration potential or proximity to a water reclamation facility.
- During presentations by Project proponents, ask follow-up questions about the Water Supply Benefits claimed for the Project, as appropriate.

#### **Tools and strategies to evaluate Water Supply Benefits that WASC members can use at any time:**

- Ask Watershed Coordinator(s) to evaluate and report to the WASC how the people, public agencies, and other stakeholders would describe the preferred Water Supply Benefits in the Watershed Area (i.e., desired outcomes and watershed-specific goals).
- Invite informational presentations from agencies, organizations, and other stakeholders to better understand potential Water Supply Benefits sought and challenges faced in the Watershed Area.

### Long-Term Vision for Water Supply Guidelines

In the long term, the District may further enlist third-party experts to assist in informing additional guidance to score and evaluate Water Supply Benefits, in conjunction with any pertinent results from the ongoing Metrics and Monitoring Study. Future updates to this guidance are currently expected to consider the following:

- 1. Refinement or Additions to 2022 Interim Guidance**
- 2. Assessment of Watershed-Specific Conditions:** Analysis of hydrogeological conditions and groundwater management on a watershed basis, including where it is believed that all dry weather and stormwater runoff is captured or recharged or is accounted for in existing management agreements – and where that lack of opportunity may have a significant impact on the ability of projects within those watersheds to meet the minimum Threshold Score.
- 3. Establish and/or Refine Definitions and Metrics:** Guidance for what is considered locally available water supply and the scale at which those benefits should be considered.
  - a. Further guidance for understanding how regional improvements in local water supplies can be judged as benefiting individual municipalities or disadvantaged communities (for now, see Disadvantaged Community Benefits guidance for current practice).
  - b. Further standardization regarding how to calculate first flush flows and how/whether to apply benefits for projects capturing such flows;
  - c. If and/or how cleaned dry weather or stormwater runoff to streams or waterbodies with habitat beneficial uses could be judged a water supply for nature or environmental water and therefore counted towards water supply benefits; and
- 4. Guidance for Addressing Water Rights Implications**

Additional issues warranting further guidance may also be considered in the future, with the next round of updated guidance currently anticipated in 2024 to include findings of the District-led Metrics and Monitoring Study, anticipated to be completed in 2023.



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### Purpose

Los Angeles Flood Control District Code states that one of the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCW Program) goals is to “**prioritize Nature-Based Solutions**” (Section 18.04.F) to achieve water quality, water supply, and community investment benefits. This goal applies across the entire SCW Program, with specific requirements in both the Municipal and Regional Program elements. This guidance seeks to help project proponents and decision-making bodies prioritize Nature-Based Solutions.

Specifically, this guidance clarifies how best to prioritize Nature-Based Solutions by:

1. Establishing a shared vocabulary, starting from the SCW Program definition, for considering Nature-Based Solutions during Project development and the programming of Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs);
2. Providing guidance to the nine Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs) about how to prioritize Nature-Based Solutions when evaluating Projects and programming SIPs;
3. Clarifying how a Project developer or applicant can and should support the Program Goal of prioritizing Nature-Based Solutions; and
4. Highlighting how the Feasibility Study requirements and virtual application submittal tool support Project proponents and WASCs in the prioritization of Nature-Based Solutions.

This guidance is focused on elements within the Regional program but may also be an important reference for the Municipal program.

### Nature-Based Solutions in the Safe, Clean Water Program

Section 16.03.V: **Nature-Based Solution** means a Project that utilizes natural processes that slow, detain, infiltrate or filter Stormwater or Urban Runoff. These methods may include:

*relying predominantly on soils and vegetation;  
increasing the permeability of Impermeable Areas;  
protecting undeveloped mountains and floodplains;  
creating and restoring riparian habitat and wetlands;  
creating rain gardens, bioswales, and parkway basins; and  
enhancing soil through composting, mulching, and planting trees and vegetation,  
with preference for native species.*

*Nature-Based Solutions may also be designed to provide additional benefits such as sequestering carbon, supporting biodiversity, providing shade, creating and enhancing parks and open space, and improving quality of life for surrounding communities.*

*Nature-Based Solution includes Projects that mimic natural processes, such as green streets, spreading grounds and planted areas with water storage capacity.*

In short, Projects that use natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies to meet identified needs and deliver SCW Program benefits are Nature-Based Solutions:



Natural process or nature mimicking strategies can be further defined as follows.

Natural processes: Practices where vegetation serves as a primary treatment mechanism or endpoint for captured runoff (including irrigation)

Nature-mimicking strategies: Unvegetated practices that capture runoff and infiltrate into native soils

- Can be augmented with vegetated surface improvements
- Previously categorized Nature-Based Solutions such as permeable pavement and infiltration basins would now be in this category

Such projects can employ natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies to achieve any of the key benefits that SCW Program seeks to provide:

- Water Quality
- Water Supply
- Community Investments, including, but not limited to:
  - Improved flood management, flood conveyance, or flood risk mitigation;
  - Creation, enhancement or restoration of parks, habitat, or wetlands;
  - Improved public access to waterways such as new or improved pedestrian and bicycle paths;

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## Programming of Nature-Based Solutions



- Enhanced or new recreational opportunities;
- Greening of schools; and
- Reduced heat island effect and increased shade or planting of trees / other vegetation

Below are examples of Nature-Based Solutions that can be used to address needs or desired outcomes and to provide SCW Program Benefits.



It is important to note that Nature-Based Solutions are inherently holistic approaches, and as a result, provide multiple benefits. The examples above have been simplified for illustrative purposes. The actual benefits provided through these Projects are more extensive than those listed.

The prioritization of Nature-Based Solutions, as called for in the Program Goals, is intended to apply to both the Regional and Municipal Programs. The Los Angeles Flood Control District Code calls for the following high-level policies related to Nature-Based Solutions:

### Regional Program

Section 16.05.D.1.g: Regional Infrastructure Program funds *“Shall be programmed, to the extent feasible, such that Nature-Based Solutions are prioritized.”*

### Municipal Program

Section 16.05.C: *“Projects implemented through the Municipal Program shall include a Water Quality Benefit. Multi-Benefit Projects and Nature-Based Solutions are strongly encouraged.”*

Section 16.05.C.1: Municipalities receiving funds shall prepare *“...a progress/expenditure report that details a program-level summary of expenditures and a description of Water Quality Benefits, Water Supply Benefits, Nature- Based Solutions, and Community Investment Benefits realized through use of Municipal Program Funds.”*

## Prioritizing Nature-Based Solutions

The prioritization of Nature-Based Solutions can be realized from initial Project design to recommended programming of funds in SIPs, to retrospective program evaluation. Across these varied contexts, the following question can help Program participants prioritize Nature-Based Solutions:

***Are there natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies that this Project can use to address watershed needs and deliver SCW Program benefits?***

For example, using this question, a Project proponent can design a Project that maximizes the use of natural processes and nature-mimicking strategies to provide needed or desired water quality, water supply, or community enhancement benefits, or to submit a request under the Technical Resources Program such that a Feasibility Study would be conducted, including an investigation as to if and how natural processes and nature-mimicking strategies can be used at the particular site.<sup>6</sup> Likewise, the governance committees can use this question in evaluating the extent to which individual Projects and SIPs for each Watershed Area are fulfilling the directive to prioritize Nature-Based Solutions in order to meet needs of the watershed and/or communities within it. Additional tools and suggestions are included in the section, “Regional Program Guidance,” below.

For many watershed and community-level needs—from addressing unreliable local water supply to improving community-level investment in historically underinvested communities—and for each of the core SCW Program benefits, there are proven Nature-Based Solutions in the greater Los Angeles region and elsewhere around the world. Further, the use of Nature-Based Solutions can, in many circumstances, be the most effective tool for achieving multiple benefits. For example, prioritizing solutions that use natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies to address poor water quality or

<sup>6</sup> Any requests to explore project concepts as part of the Technical Resources Program must be approved by Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs) as part of Stormwater Investment Plans for the Watershed Area in which the request was submitted.

insufficient local water supply can often produce community enhancements as well. In cases where the need is not feasibly met by Nature-Based Solutions, other identified needs or desired outcomes, such as increasing access to green space or reducing vulnerability to the urban heat island effect, may perhaps be addressed with natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies. There are plentiful examples for using Nature-Based Solutions to meet a variety of needs and desired outcomes, including improved flood management; additional parks, habitat or wetlands; increasing access to waterways such as new or improved pedestrian and bicycle paths; enhancing recreational opportunities; increasing green space on school property; and mitigating against extreme heat. Applicants are encouraged to work with Watershed Coordinators and other resources such as the WHAM Task Force to maximize Nature-Based Solutions, develop multi-benefit projects, and evaluate other funding opportunities.

### Natural Processes and Nature-Mimicking Strategies Used in Nature-Based Solutions

A clear linkage exists between watershed and community needs, Nature-Based Solutions, and delivery of the core benefits the Safe, Clean Water Program. Below is a table that attempts to capture and make explicit some of those linkages. It is important to note that many of the needs or desired outcomes, feasible Nature-Based Solutions, and the benefits that can be achieved by using them are integrated. Thus, there is significant overlap in the contents of the rows below.

The table below is not intended to be an exhaustive list of needs/desired outcomes, strategies, or benefits in any of its columns; rather it is illustrative and presented to support Project developers and WASC members in identifying ways in which natural processes and nature-mimicking strategies can be used to address known challenges and as means of yielding tangible benefits. Because this table is not comprehensive, there may be natural processes and/or nature-mimicking strategies that address needs/desired outcomes and provide benefits outside of these categories. ***Any natural processes or nature-mimicking strategy claimed as Nature-Based Solutions by a Project applicant but not included on this table will be evaluated at the discretion of WASC members in each individual Watershed Area on a case-by-case basis.***

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## Programming of Nature-Based Solutions



Identified Need or Desired Outcome	Potential Natural Processes & Nature-Mimicking Strategies	SCW Program Benefits
<b>Improved environmental water quality</b>	Bioretention; biofiltration; removed impermeable area; increase of permeability; soil enhancement; green streets	Water Quality Benefit
<b>Increased local water supply</b>	Surface and subsurface infiltration to groundwater; treat and release clean stormwater flows for a justified beneficial use; stormwater capture to offset irrigation with potable water; soil enhancement to offset irrigation with potable water; new native and climate-appropriate planting to offset irrigation with potable water; remove impermeable area; increase permeability	Water Supply Benefit
<b>Improved flood management</b>	Bioretention; native and climate appropriate planting; removal of impermeable area; increase of permeability; microtopography changes; protection or restoration of riparian or wetland systems	Community Investment Benefit (CIB): Flood Management
<b>Improved flood conveyance</b>	Stream daylighting; bioretention; microtopography changes; removed impermeable surfaces; increase of permeability; localized infiltration to groundwater	CIB: Flood Conveyance
<b>Reduced flood Risk</b>	Bioretention; microtopography changes; native and climate appropriate planting; soil enhancement; construction or restoration of riparian or wetland systems; protection of undeveloped mountains or floodplains	CIB: Flood Risk Mitigation
<b>Increased park space</b>	New pocket parks, green alleys, green medians; new access to stormwater facilities or streams; park renovation; new native or climate appropriate planting	CIB: Create, Enhance, Restore Parks
<b>Increased, improved, or restored habitat area</b>	Construction or restoration of riparian or wetland systems; new native and climate appropriate planting; soil enhancement; treat and release clean stormwater flows for a justified beneficial use; protection or restoration of native or climate appropriate habitat; protection of undeveloped mountain or floodplains	CIB: Create, Enhance, Restore Habitat
<b>Increased, improved, or restored wetlands</b>	Construction or restoration of riparian or wetland systems; new native and climate appropriate planting, soil enhancement; treat and release clean stormwater flows to wetland habitats	CIB: Create, Enhance, Restore Wetlands
<b>Increased public access to waterways</b>	New parks or greenways at street ends or in streamside rights-of-way; new access points and services in waterway rights-of-way	CIB: Public Access to Waterways
<b>Increased access to quality recreational</b>	New or enhanced parks or greenways; stream daylighting; treat and release clean stormwater flows in recreational areas; new native and climate appropriate planting	CIB: Enhanced or New Recreational



# SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance

## Programming of Nature-Based Solutions



Identified Need or Desired Outcome	Potential Natural Processes & Nature-Mimicking Strategies	SCW Program Benefits
<b>opportunities</b>		Opportunities
<b>Increased green space on school property</b>	Removal of impervious area; new native and climate appropriate planting	CIB: Greening Schools
<b>Extreme heat mitigation</b>	Removal of impervious area, new native and climate appropriate planting, soil enhancement	CIB: Reduced Heat Island Effect
<b>Increase in shade/tree canopy and vegetation</b>	Native and climate-appropriate shade tree planting <sup>7</sup>	CIB: Increased Shade; Planting Trees
<b>Improved air quality</b>	Native and climate-appropriate tree planting	CIB: Planting Trees
<b>Increase in green space</b>	New pocket parks, green alleys, green medians; new access to natural stormwater facilities; park renovation; new native or climate appropriate planting	CIB: Planting Other Vegetation
<b>Greenhouse gas emissions mitigation</b>	Native and climate appropriate planting; soil enhancement; construction or restoration of riparian and wetland systems	CIB: Sequestering Carbon
<b>Enhanced biodiversity</b>	Native and climate appropriate planting; soil enhancement; construction or restoration of riparian and wetland systems	CIB: Supporting Biodiversity
<b>Improved quality of life</b>	New or enhanced parks, green alleys, green medians; new or enhanced access to rights-of-way along waterways; new native and climate appropriate planting	CIB: Improving Quality of Life
<b>Improved public health</b>	New native and climate appropriate planting, soil enhancement; vector minimization strategies; biofiltration; treat and release stormwater flows to recreational areas; new or enhanced park and recreational access	CIB: Improve Public Health

<sup>7</sup> For all plantings on SCW Program Project sites, there is a preference for plants that are native or climate-appropriate for the Los Angeles Region. Several resources with examples of these plant types are linked in the “Regional Program Guidance” section. Note that these lists are not intended to be exhaustive, and a proponent may choose to justify that a plant not found on these lists is climate-appropriate and/or native as well.

### Regional Program Guidance

#### 1. Scoring and Feasibility Studies via the Project Module

All applicants seeking funding through the Regional Program must submit a Feasibility Study, or equivalent, for review by the Scoring Committee and one of nine Watershed Area Steering Committees. Feasibility Study applications are submitted using a virtual tool on the website, the Project Module. Using the Feasibility Study information provided by the applicant via the Project Module, the Scoring Committee will verify the points awarded for Projects, including points specifically for Nature-Based Solutions.

#### *Known or Perceived Need Addressed by Project*

The Project Module asks each Project applicant to identify the known or perceived needs or desired outcomes of the community or Watershed Area within which a Project is located, justification of why the Project developer understands those to be needs, and the ways that the Project is anticipated to address those needs and achieve desired outcomes. This question is posed for each of the three SCW Program benefits – Water Supply Benefit, Water Quality Benefit, and Community Investment Benefit.

While not scored, this is an important part of the Project narrative that WASC members should consider in their evaluation of the strength of any individual Project or suite of Projects for inclusion in a Stormwater Investment Plan.

#### *Points Available for Nature-Based Solutions*

Of the total 110 points maximum, Project applicants can attain a total of 15 points for implementation of Nature-Based Solutions. See description and point distribution in the table below.

D. Nature-Based Solutions	15 points max	The Project implements Nature-Based Solutions
	15 points	<p>D1. Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implements natural processes or mimics natural processes to slow, detain, capture, and absorb/infiltrate water in a manner that protects, enhances and/or restores habitat, green space and/or usable open space = 5 points</li> <li>Utilizes natural materials such as soils and vegetation with a preference for native vegetation = 5 points</li> <li>Removes Impermeable Area from Project (1 point per 20% paved area removed) = 5 points</li> </ul>

Project applicants must include the following Nature-Based Solutions information in their Feasibility Studies in order to be awarded points:

- 5 points for **implementing natural processes** (yes/no)

The Project Module provides the following example for implementing natural processes: *“For example, does this project implement natural processes or mimic natural processes to slow, detain, capture, and absorb/infiltrate water in a manner that protects, enhances or restores habitat, green space or usable open space.”*

To be eligible for points in this category, Projects should support achieving desired outcomes related to improved water quality, water supply, and/or community investments using **embedded solutions** where the processes used to slow, detain, capture, and absorb/infiltrate water is both a natural process or nature-mimicking strategy AND protects, enhances, and or restores habitat, green space and/or usable open space.



Importantly, habitat, green space, and usable open space can often be incorporated in stormwater improvement strategies. However, habitat, green space, and usable open space or other natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies that are independent of the stormwater improvement would not be eligible for points in this category. Excluded strategies may include, but are not limited to, ornamental landscaping, pocket parks, and shade trees.

- 5 points for **utilizing natural materials** (yes/no)

The Project Module references the following example for how a Project can use natural materials: *“For example, such as soils and vegetation with a preference for native vegetation. The explanation should include the relative increase in soils and vegetation at the project site and/or the relative increase in native vegetation. If a plant palate has been developed, it should be attached.”*

To be eligible for points in this category, the Project should advance benefits related to water quality, water supply, and/or community investments by incorporating natural materials such as soils and vegetation—with a preference for native and climate-appropriate vegetation—anywhere within the Project area. There are multiple databases (some examples are shown in Figure 1) produced by Los Angeles area organizations and institutions that can support the selection of appropriate and preferred plants, trees, and soil amendments. Note that these lists are not intended to be exhaustive, and a proponent may argue that a plant not found on these lists is climate-appropriate and/or native.

The natural materials may be associated with the stormwater improvement but are not required to be. Strategies may include, but are not limited to, adding landscaping, planting shade trees, planting native and climate appropriate vegetation, soil enhancement for infiltration (or subsurface infiltration) or improved soil health, and other strategies listed in the table above.

### Figure 1. Resources for Native and Climate-Appropriate Vegetation.

Los Angeles County Waterworks Division:  
<https://dpw.lacounty.gov/wwd/web/Conservation/NativePlant.aspx>

California Native Plant Society:  
<https://vegetation.cnps.org>

Metropolitan Water District Water Wise Program:  
[https://www.bewaterwise.com/assets/mwd\\_plantguide-screen\\_la\\_4\\_23.pdf](https://www.bewaterwise.com/assets/mwd_plantguide-screen_la_4_23.pdf)

Theodore Payne Foundation: Plant Guides: [Plant Guides | Theodore Payne Foundation](#)

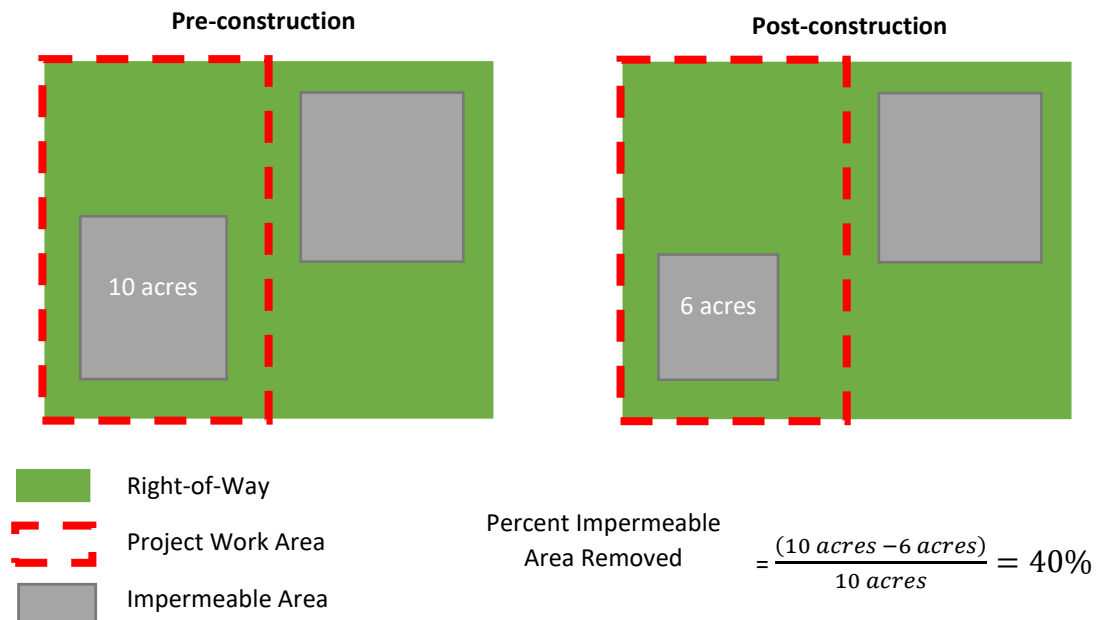
TreePeople Climate-Appropriate Non-Native Plants List:  
<https://www.treepeople.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Non-Native-Plant-Starter-List.pdf>

- Up to 5 points for **removing impermeable surface** (1 point for every 20% impervious area removed)

The Project Module asks the proponent to quantify the amount of impermeable surface that will be removed during the course of the Project, with this guidance: *“An engineering estimate for how much impermeable area is removed after the construction of the project. Compares the impermeable area of the project work area before construction to after the project is completed.”* (Yes/No; Acreage estimation before and after)

Impermeable areas should be calculated for the entire project work area (i.e., areas within active work limits). Percent Impermeable Area Removed shall be calculated using the following formula. See sample calculation below for reference.

$$= \frac{\text{Impermeable area pre construction} - \text{Impermeable area post construction}}{\text{Impermeable area pre construction}}$$



The role of impermeable surfaces in the production of polluted runoff and as a barrier to infiltration is well established. Impermeable surfaces are also often the cause of heat islands and the associated negative public health outcomes.

### Absence of Nature-Based Solutions

If Nature-Based Solutions are not used, the proponent is required to provide an explanation, with supporting analysis and information, of why it is not feasible to do so.

For each of the three scored benefits in the Project Module, Water Quality, Water Supply, and each of the identified Community Investments, a Project developer is asked the following: *“Can you describe how natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies have been used to achieve this benefit? If you have achieved this benefit without using Nature-Based Solutions, please include a description of what options were considered and why Nature-Based Solutions were not utilized.”*<sup>8</sup>

Project proponents are responsible for prioritizing Nature-Based Solutions at the earliest available stage of development by working through the feasibility of using natural processes and nature-mimicking strategies to meet identified needs in the watershed and/or community and provide Program benefits.

<sup>8</sup> Note that previously, a version of this question was asked just on the Project Module page for Nature-Based Solutions. Starting in Round 3, it instead is asked for each benefit in order to help the WASCs better understand and evaluate the project- and program-level prioritization of NBS.

### 2. Evaluating Projects at the Watershed Area Steering Committee

Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs) develop Stormwater Investments Plans (SIPs), which summarize WASC recommendations for how to allocate Regional Program funding for each Watershed Area. One criterion the WASCs must consider in the development of their SIP recommendations is the prioritization of Nature-Based Solutions to the extent feasible.

#### *WASC Evaluation of Individual Projects*

WASCs can use the materials submitted by each applicant in the Project Module to evaluate the Nature-Based Solutions submitted for funding consideration. WASCs can use this question set to assist their consideration of each qualified Project, alongside the answers provided by the proponent when they submitted the Project and asserted the use of, or the decision to not use, Nature-Based Solutions:

#### Questions to Ask Regarding Individual Projects

***Are there natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies that this Project will use to address watershed needs and deliver SCW Program benefits?***

***If not, should this project be revisited for future SIP consideration***

Where possible, WASC members should consider known needs of the Watershed Area and/or the community in which the Project is located when evaluating the benefits that it is providing.

Note that the feasibility of using Nature-Based Solutions is key to the treatment of the second question. In situations where a Project proponent has expressed that Nature-Based Solutions are infeasible, the WASC can evaluate how the proponent analyzed and ultimately decided to not include natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies in the proposed Project. If the infeasibility is considered to be demonstrated adequately, the WASC should not consider the absence of natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies as the sole grounds to revisit the Project in the future.

However, for those sites where Nature-Based Solutions are feasible and desirable, the WASC may consider shifting the Project to the Technical Resources Program for refined/new concept development (incorporating Nature-Based Solutions) or requesting the proponent bring a revised proposal back to the WASC for consideration in a future year.

#### *WASC Evaluation of SIPs*

Additionally, WASCs can prioritize Nature-Based Solutions by considering how the suite of Projects supported by past SIPs, and those under consideration each fiscal year as a SIP is programed, together reflect a prioritization of Projects that use natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies across the Watershed Area and to the benefit of all communities. A couple questions that could help this consideration are:

### Questions to Ask Regarding SIPs

*Has the WASC prioritized Nature-Based Solutions within this and prior Stormwater Investment Plans?*

*How are the Nature-Based Solutions funded to-date collectively providing the anticipated benefits to the Watershed Area, and where are the biggest needs or opportunities?*

Considering the known and perceived needs of the Watershed Area, WASC members should evaluate the extent to which full suites of Projects programmed in Stormwater Investment Plans meet or are anticipated to meet those needs.

In cases where collective groups of Projects, including Nature-Based Solutions, do not adequately address Watershed Area needs, WASC members may wish to reevaluate programming recommendations to have a suite of Projects more targeted toward providing specific benefits or achieving particular outcomes. If programming a Stormwater Investment Plan such that Watershed Area needs can be met is not possible (i.e. there are not eligible Projects that meet those needs that can be programmed), WASC members should provide that information to the Flood Control District staff and to their Watershed Coordinator(s) to assist with developing the pipeline of such Projects applying for funding in future years.

*Other Tools Available to WASC Members* A series of actions and activities are available to WASCs for prioritizing Nature-Based Solutions:

**Strategies to prioritize Nature-Based Solutions that WASC members can use during Project evaluation and SIP recommendation development:**

- Prior to sending submitted Projects to Scoring Committee, the WASC can choose to evaluate the extent to which natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies are included in each Project, and the extent to which Nature-Based Solutions appear across the suite of Projects. This evaluation can support the WASC decision-making about which Projects are “sent” to Scoring.
- Upon the completion of scoring and during review of individual Projects, the WASC should read materials provided by proponents about natural processes and nature-mimicking strategies included in Projects, and in the case where Nature-Based Solutions were judged infeasible, about the analysis and reasons given.
- During presentations by Project proponents, the WASC members can ask questions about the natural processes or nature-mimicking strategies included in the Project, or about the analysis completed which showed Nature-Based Solutions to be infeasible.
- When programming the SIP, the WASC can review SIP of previous years, and the suite of Projects proposed, to consider how Nature-Based Solutions are being prioritized in the Watershed Area.

**Strategies to prioritize Nature-Based Solutions that WASC members can use at any time:**

- WASCs can ask their Watershed Coordinator(s) to evaluate and report to the WASC how the people, city and county agencies, and other stakeholders would prioritize Nature-Based Solutions in the Watershed Area.
- WASCs can invite informational presentations from agencies, organizations, and other stakeholders to better understand how Nature-Based Solutions would bring benefits and meet the challenges faced in the Watershed Area.

### SCW Program Fund Transfer Agreements in the Regional and Municipal Programs

In addition to the requirements listed above, recipients of SCW Program funding in the Regional and Municipal Programs do not receive funds until they execute a Fund Transfer Agreement that outlines several expectations relative to Nature-Based Solutions in Project design, implementation, and reporting.

Both Regional Program Fund Recipients and Municipalities are required:

- To consider using and incorporating Nature-Based Solutions for their Projects.
- To include in their Progress reports (quarterly and annual) and in the Expenditure report a summary whether and how their Projects achieve a good, better, best for each of the 6 Nature-Based Solutions methods in accordance with guidance (See Appendix for the good/better/best guidance for Nature-Based Solutions).
- To include in their Progress reports (quarterly and annual)/ Expenditure Reports a discussion of any considerations taken to maximize the class within each Nature-Based Solutions method. If at least 3 Nature-Based Solutions methods score within a single class, the overall Project can be characterized as that class.
- To attach a copy of the matrix for each Project with the good, better, or best column indicated for each method, to facilitate District tracking of methods being utilized.

### Long-Term Vision for Nature-Based Solutions

The Flood Control District recognizes that, long-term, additional measures will need to be taken across SCW Program implementation—from project design to retrospective considerations, along with ongoing adaptive management—to facilitate the prioritization of Nature-Based Solutions. While not appropriate to include within the scope of this guidance, the Flood Control District anticipates pursuing additional activities and exploring further potential guidance in 2024.

- **Regional Program Project Design Phase:** Assessment of ways to build a pipeline of Nature-Based Solutions applications received for funding consideration. This could be accomplished through a variety of tactics, including but not limited to the following:
  - Identification of regional and watershed-level needs that can be met using Nature-Based Solutions
  - Education/training for Project developers on what is considered a Nature-Based Solution in the SCW Program, how to design, construct, and maintain Nature-Based Solutions, and examples of projects that are considered good, better, or best for meeting Nature-Based Solutions preferences of the SCW Program
  - Incentives for Project developers, such as by specifying round-specific program preferences for funding, development of Nature-Based Solutions targets for WASCs, or other measures
  - Exploration of an iterative project design process that enables Project developers to engage with the District and with WASCs earlier in the design process so that any preferences in design can be shared by governance committees and taken into account by Project developers
  - Facilitating WASC discussions to further establish Watershed Area specific needs and opportunities that inform new project concepts and ensure maximum consideration of potential Nature-Based Solutions

- **Regional Program Scoring:** Assessment of potential adjustments to scoring as part of comprehensive scoring review following MMS and robust stakeholder processes that may include modifications related to any or all of the following:
  - Desirable Nature-Based Solutions are competitive in scoring (i.e., pass threshold)
  - Nature-Based Solutions on the lower end of the good/better/best spectrum are not awarded de facto full points
  - Nature-Based solutions be a means to desired outcomes related to the primary benefits and Goals of the SCW Program.
- **SCW Program Evaluation:** Establish processes for the biennial review in developing recommendations for adaptive program management. This will include careful consideration of lessons learned to date and resulting options to potentially improve outcomes.
- **Integration Across SCW Program:** Ensure that Regional Program processes and preferences are appropriately integrated with the implementation of the Municipal Program, Watershed Coordinators, and District Programs, including the District Education Program, such that all parties working to implement the SCW Program are fulfilling the directive to prioritize Nature-Based Solutions.
- **Integration Across WHAM:** Establish processes to collaborate early with other funding programs to evaluate opportunities and maximize Nature-Based Solutions that may achieve multi-sector benefits in addition to SCW Program objectives.

### APPENDIX: Annotated "Nature-Based Solutions Best Management Practices"

*The content below has been taken from the Fund Transfer Agreements, and annotated for clarity. This annotation is meant to assist the Project developers and Municipalities in filling out progress reports for Projects and expenditures. It clarifies terms and other ambiguities for each of the Nature-Based Solutions methods highlighted in the evaluation form.*

Nature-based solutions (NBS) refers to the sustainable management and use of nature for undertaking socio-environmental challenges, including climate change, water security, water pollution, food security, human health, and disaster risk management. As this environmental management practice is increasingly incorporated into projects for the SCW Program, this guidance document may be expanded upon to further quantify NBS practices based on benefits derived from their incorporation on projects.

The SCW Program defines Nature-Based Solutions as a Project that utilizes natural processes that slow, detain, infiltrate or filter Stormwater or Urban Runoff. These methods may include relying predominantly on soils and vegetation; increasing the permeability of Impermeable Areas; protecting undeveloped mountains and floodplains; creating and restoring riparian habitat and wetlands; creating rain gardens, bioswales, and parkway basins; enhancing soil through composting, mulching; and, planting trees and vegetation, with preference for native species. Nature-Based Solutions may also be designed to provide additional benefits such as sequestering carbon, supporting biodiversity, providing shade, creating and enhancing parks and open space, and improving quality of life for surrounding communities. Nature-Based Solutions include Projects that mimic natural processes, such as green streets, spreading grounds and planted areas with water storage capacity. Nature-Based Solutions improve water quality, collect water for reuse or aquifer recharge, or to support vegetation growth utilizing natural processes.

Recipients are to consider using Nature-Based Solutions for infrastructure projects and tinclude in each quarterly and annual report whether and how their project achieves a good, better, or best for each of the 6 NBS methods in accordance with the guidance below. Additionally, reports should include discussion on any considerations taken to maximize the class within each method. If at least 3 methods score within a single class, the overall project can be characterized as that class.

*Note that because Nature-Based Solutions are inherently holistic approaches, many attributes of projects that meet the description under one method will receive credit under other methods.*



### Method 1: Vegetation/Green Space

**Purpose:** This method refers to the utilization of climate-appropriate and native vegetation, as well as strategically placed shade trees that provide cooling benefits. The class is determined by the type of vegetation included in the project as well as estimated percentage of vegetative cover.

**Evaluation:** To be considered as meeting any class in this method, both criteria must be met in that class. This method is also intended to be cumulative, where a “best” classification is attained only when all requirements of lower tier(s) are satisfied as well. If you believe you have met a “good,” “better,” or “best” class but haven’t met all the criteria within or below a tier, please justify.

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
<b>GOOD</b>	<p>Use of climate-appropriate vegetation (groundcover, shrubs, and trees) / green space</p> <p>5%-15% covered by new climate-appropriate vegetation</p>
<b>BETTER</b>	<p>Use of native, climate-appropriate vegetation (groundcover, shrubs, and trees) / green space</p> <p>16%-35% covered by new native vegetation</p>
<b>BEST</b>	<p>Establishment of plant communities with a diversity of native vegetation (groundcover, shrubs, and trees) / green space that is both native and climate-appropriate</p> <p>More than 35% covered by new native vegetation</p>

### NOTES

“**Climate appropriate vegetation**” means a variety of plants that may not be “native” to the Los Angeles region, but which require below-average amounts of water. This includes certain shade trees. Examples can be found here: [TreePeople Climate-Appropriate Non-Native Plants List](#)

The **percentages** indicated here mean the portion of the total Project area cover by vegetation at plant maturity.<sup>9</sup>

“**Native vegetation**” means a variety of plants that are adapted to and historically grown within the Los Angeles region, and are non-invasive. Examples may be found using the following resources:

- [Los Angeles County Waterworks Division Native Plant List](#)
- [Metropolitan Water District Water Wise Program Native Planting Guide for LA County](#)
- [TreePeople Native Plants List](#)
- [California Native Plant Society](#)
- [Theodore Payne Foundation: Plant Guides](#)

<sup>9</sup> While only the portion of vegetation relative to the whole Project area is noted as a criteria for this method, Project developers and WASCs should consider the total absolute square footage of vegetation when self-assessing for reporting purposes and evaluating Project impact.

### Method 2: Increase of Permeability

**Purpose:** This method is about increasing the amount of permeable surface in LA County. Accordingly, for projects implemented on land that is already fully permeable, this method does not apply.

**Evaluation:** To be considered as meeting any class in this method, two criteria must be met: (1) percentage of impermeable/paved surfaced removed and (2) the type of landscape installed (see “Notes” section for details). The other criterion in each class is desirable, but not required. This method is intended to be cumulative, where a “best” classification is attained only when all requirements of lower tier(s) are satisfied as well. If you believe you have met a “good,” “better,” or “best” class but haven’t met all the criteria within or below a tier, please justify.

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
<b>GOOD</b>	<p>Installation of vegetated landscape – 25%-49% paved area removed</p> <p>Redesign of existing impermeable surfaces and/or installation of permeable surfaces (e.g. permeable pavement and infiltration trenches)</p>
<b>BETTER</b>	<p>Installation of vegetated landscape – 50%-74% paved area removed</p> <p>Improvements of soil health (e.g., compaction reduction)</p>
<b>BEST</b>	<p>Installation of vegetated landscape – 75%-100% paved area removed</p> <p>Creation of well-connected and self-sustained natural landscapes with healthy soils, permeable surfaces, and appropriate vegetation</p>

### NOTES

**Paved area** means anything impermeable through which water cannot percolate or infiltrate.

The **percentages** refer to the proportion of paved/impermeable surface being removed in the Project area.<sup>10</sup>

To meet a “**good**” class in this method, a Project must have removed at least the listed percentage of impermeable/paved area, AND installed a permeable surface in its place, including but not limited to permeable pavement, soil, or vegetated landscape. Redesign of remaining impermeable/paved surfaces is encouraged but not required.

To meet a “**better**” class in this method, a Project must have removed at least the listed percentage of impermeable/paved area, AND installed soil or landscape in its place (permeable pavement does not count). Redesign of remaining impermeable/paved surfaces and improvements to soil health are encouraged but not required.

To meet a “**best**” class in this method, a Project must have removed at least the listed percentage of impermeable/paved area, AND installed vegetated landscape with groundcover, shrubs, and/or trees in its place. Redesign of remaining impermeable/paved surfaces, improvements to soil health, and creation of landscapes are encouraged but not required.

<sup>10</sup> While only the portion of impermeable/paved surface removed relative to the whole Project area is noted as a criteria for this method, Project developers and WASCs should consider the total absolute square footage of removed surface when self-assessing for reporting purposes and evaluating Project impact. For example, removing a total of 1 square foot of pavement that exists on a Project site shouldn’t qualify for the “best” class even if the Project removes 100% of the impermeable surface.

### Method 3: Protection of Undeveloped Mountains & Floodplains

**Purpose:** This method refers to the preservation of existing habitat, wetland, and natural hydrologic features of the watersheds of Los Angeles County. For Projects located on land that does not have existing vegetation or land to preserve, this method does not apply.

**Evaluation:** To be considered as meeting any class in this method, both criteria must be met in that class. This method is intended to be cumulative, where a “best” classification is attained only when all requirements of lower tier(s) are satisfied as well. If you believe you have met a “good,” “better,” or “best” class but haven’t met all the criteria within or below a tier, please justify.

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
<b>GOOD</b>	<p>Preservation of native vegetation</p> <p>Minimal negative impact to existing drainage system</p>
<b>BETTER</b>	<p>Preservation of native vegetation</p> <p>Installation of new feature(s) to improve existing drainage system</p>
<b>BEST</b>	<p>Preservation of native vegetation</p> <p>Creation of open green space</p> <p>Installation of features to improve natural hydrology</p>

### NOTES

**Preserving native vegetation:** Projects built in locations that already have a lot of native vegetation that is protected or will be preserved via Project implementation are considered to be in the “good” and “better” classes.

The **existing drainage system** may be the natural hydrology or an existing built drainage system, depending on the project site.

**Minimal negative impact** is any action or impact considered “less than significant” as defined by CEQA.

**Improvements** will enhance the drainage system’s ability to slow, detain, capture, and/or infiltrate water without creating increased flood damage risk to property or persons.

**Creating open space:** Those projects that preserve native vegetation AND create open green space, using climate-appropriate and native vegetation, that is intended for safe public use are considered to be in the “best” class.

The **natural hydrology** is comprised of green infrastructure and land elements that direct and infiltrate water entering the built drainage system. To meet the “best” class in this method, improvements should be to the natural hydrology, rather than to a built system.

### Method 4: Creation & Restoration of Riparian Habitat & Wetlands

**Purpose:** This method is about restoration of former or existing degraded riparian habitat and wetlands and/or creation of riparian and/or wetland habitat on the Project site.

**Evaluation:** To be considered as meeting any class in this method, all criteria must be met in that class. This method is intended to be cumulative, where a “best” classification is attained only when all requirements of lower tier(s) are satisfied as well. If you believe you have met a “good,” “better,” or “best” class but haven’t met all the criteria within or below a tier, please justify.

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
<b>GOOD</b>	<p>Partial restoration of existing riparian habitat and wetlands</p> <p>Planting of climate appropriate vegetation - between 5 and 15 different climate-appropriate or native plant species newly planted</p> <p>No potable water used to sustain the wetland</p>
<b>BETTER</b>	<p>Full restoration of existing riparian habitat and wetlands</p> <p>Planting of native vegetation - between 16 and 30 different native plant species newly planted</p> <p>No potable water used to sustain the wetland</p>
<b>BEST</b>	<p>Full restoration and expansion of existing riparian habitat and wetlands</p> <p>Planting of plant communities with a diversity of native vegetation – greater than 31 native plant species newly planted</p> <p>No potable water used to sustain the wetland</p>

### NOTES

**Riparian habitat** is defined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and can be found [here](#).

**Wetland** is defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and can be found [here](#).

**Restoration** means the manipulation of physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural or historic function of degraded habitat to equal or better than its former state.

**Partial restoration** means less than 80% of the existing riparian habitat or wetlands on the parcel will be restored as part of the project scope.

A list of **climate-appropriate** and **native vegetation** can be found in Method 1, “Vegetation/Green Space.” Plant palettes should be designed to consider habitat opportunities, functional use, and site conditions.

**Full restoration** means all or almost all (at least 80%) of the existing riparian habitat or wetlands on the parcel has been restored as part of the Project scope.

To meet the “**best**” class in this method, new riparian habitat or wetlands must be created in addition to the area restored.

### Method 5: New Landscape Elements

**Purpose:** This method refers to the use and/or manipulation of the natural landscape to capture or direct stormwater flows and to improve water quality. These new landscape elements may supplement or even replace existing drainage systems.

**Evaluation:** To be considered as meeting any class in this method the capture criteria indicated below must be met. This method is intended to be cumulative, where a “best” classification is attained only when all requirements of lower tier(s) are satisfied as well. If you believe you have met a “good,” “better,” or “best” class but haven’t met all the criteria within or below a tier, please justify.

CLASS	DESCRIPTION
<b>GOOD</b>	Elements designed to capture runoff for other simple usage (e.g. rain gardens and cisterns), capturing the 85th percentile 24-hour storm event for at least 50% of the entire parcel
<b>BETTER</b>	Elements that design to capture/redirect runoff and filter pollution (e.g. bioswales and parkway basins), capturing the 85th percentile 24-hour storm event from the entire parcel
<b>BEST</b>	Large sized elements that capture and treat runoff to supplement or replace existing water systems (e.g. wetlands, daylighting streams, groundwater infiltration, floodplain reclamation), capturing the 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile 24-hour storm event from the entire parcel and/or capturing off-site runoff

### NOTES

Landscape elements that qualify a project for credit under this method include any of the following:

- Cisterns (small-scale)
- Rain gardens (small-scale)
- Treewells (small- to medium-scale)
- Bioswales (medium-scale)
- Parkway basins (medium-scale)
- Retention ponds (medium- to large-scale)
- Wetlands (large-scale)
- Daylighting streams (large-scale)
- Regional groundwater infiltration basins (*must be vegetated*) (large-scale)
- Floodplain reclamation (large-scale)

The “good,” “better,” or “best” evaluation for this method will depend on the amount of **stormwater effectively captured or redirected** by the elements across the parcel and off-site, as noted in the matrix.

For the “**best**” class, Projects must capture either the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile OR at least the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile from the entire parcel plus off-site runoff in order to qualify. For off-site runoff, WASCs should verify volumes in order to consider a Project as “best” under this method.

### Method 6: Enhancement of Soil

**Purpose:** This method refers to the health of soil at the project site to ensure adequate drainage and advance co-benefits associated with healthy soils, like greenhouse gas sequestration, erosion prevention, water retention, and others.

**Evaluation:** To be considered as meeting any class in this method, all criteria must be met in that class. This method is intended to be cumulative, where a “best” classification is attained only when all requirements of lower tier(s) are satisfied as well. If you believe you have met a “good,” “better,” or “best” class but haven’t met all the criteria within or below a tier, please justify.

CLASS	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
<b>GOOD</b>	<p>Use of soil amendments such as mulch and compost to retain moisture in the soil and prevent erosion</p> <p>Planting of new climate-appropriate vegetation to enhance soil organic matter</p>	<p><b>Soil amendments</b> mean materials that are mixed into the soil to improve water retention and nutrient absorption, which could include compost, manure, wood chips, or rocks.</p> <p>A list of <b>climate-appropriate</b> and <b>native vegetation</b> can be found in Method 1, “Vegetation/Green Space.”</p>
<b>BETTER</b>	<p>Use of soil amendments such as mulch and compost that are locally generated to retain moisture in the soil, prevent erosion, and support locally-based composting and other soil enhancement activities</p> <p>Planting of new native, climate-appropriate vegetation to enhance soil organic matter</p>	<p><b>Locally-generated</b> soil amendments are those sourced and processed within the Watershed Area of the project under consideration. <b>Locally-based</b> soil enhancement activities will be those taking place within that same Watershed Area.</p>
<b>BEST</b>	<p>Use of soil amendments such as mulch and compost that are locally generated, especially use of next-generation design with regenerative adsorbents (e.g. woodchips, biochar) to retain moisture in the soil, prevent erosion, and support on-site composting and other soil enhancement activities</p> <p>Planting of new native, climate appropriate vegetation to enhance soil organic matter</p>	<p>For the <b>“best” class</b>, Projects should include on-site soil enhancement.</p>

## Implementing Disadvantaged Community Policies in the Regional Program

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### Purpose

Experience to-date in the Regional Program reveals that aspects of Safe, Clean Water Program (SCW Program) related to providing Disadvantaged Community Benefits require further guidance to better support achieving the outcomes sought. The SCW Program emphasizes investments that produce benefits in or directly to disadvantaged communities. Complying with the Disadvantaged Community Benefit policy in the Program is complex, and asserting what benefits accrue to which communities is not easily quantified.

As of May 2021, the District Program is developing a study which, among many things, will review how other funding programs that direct investment in disadvantaged communities have worked to overcome the many challenges that remain when seeking to implement the SCW Program policy. That study will inform future guidance in support of Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) development in the Regional Program.

The following Interim guidance is intended to support SIP programming by providing information to help Project proponents with application preparation and Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs) with consistent evaluation and decision-making during the development of SIP recommendations. As appropriate, this guidance may also be referenced during ongoing discussions at the WASCs for recommendations.



Specifically, this guidance includes the following:

1. Clarification of how Project proponents and WASCs can interpret and substantiate a Project's ability to deliver Disadvantaged Community Benefits;
2. Policies for consistently accounting for the 110% investment provisions within Stormwater Investment Plans;
3. Considerations to inform deliberation and discussion about relationships between communities, municipalities, and census block groups.

### Disadvantaged Community Benefit Policies in the Safe, Clean Water Program

One goal of the SCW Program, found in Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District) Code Section 18.04 (J), is to "provide Disadvantaged Community Benefits, including Regional Program infrastructure investments, that are not less than one hundred and ten percent (110%) of the ratio of the [disadvantaged community] population to the total population in each Watershed Area."

Summarizing the ordinance sections and definitions below reveal that the **program goal of investing in disadvantaged communities is achieved by locating beneficial Projects within, or such that the benefits of a Project are directly provided to, census block groups where the median household income is less than 80% of the statewide median household income.**

When a Project has these qualities, and the WASC recommends it for funding, the value of regional SCW Program funding that is allocated to the Project in the 5-year Stormwater Investment Plan will be used to calculate fulfillment of the 110% requirement.

### Key Definitions

- Section 16.03(H): "Disadvantaged community" means a census block group that has an annual median household income of less than eighty percent (80%) of the Statewide annual median household income (as defined in Water Code section 79505.5).
- Section 16.03(I): "Disadvantaged Community Benefit" means a Water Quality Benefit, Water Supply Benefit, and/or Community Investment Benefit located in a [disadvantaged community] or providing benefits directly to a [disadvantaged community] population.
- Section 16.03(Y): "Project" means the development (including design, preparation of environmental documents, obtaining applicable regulatory permits, construction, inspection, and similar activities), operation and maintenance, of a physical structure or facility that increases Stormwater or Urban Runoff capture or reduces Stormwater or Urban Runoff pollution in the District.
- Section 16.03(NN): "Water Quality Benefit" means a reduction in Stormwater or Urban Runoff pollution, such as improvements in the chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of Stormwater or Urban Runoff in the District. Activities resulting in this benefit include but are not limited to: infiltration or treatment of Stormwater or Urban Runoff, non-point source pollution control, and diversion of Stormwater or Urban Runoff to a sanitary sewer system.



- Section 16.03 (OO): "Water Supply Benefit" means an increase in the amount of locally available water supply, provided there is a nexus to Stormwater or Urban Runoff capture. Activities resulting in this benefit include, but are not limited to, the following: reuse and conservation practices, diversion of Stormwater or Urban Runoff to a sanitary sewer system for direct or indirect water recycling, increased groundwater replenishment or available yield, or offset of potable water use.
- Section 16.03(F): "Community Investment Benefit" means a benefit created in conjunction with a Project or Program, such as, but not limited to: improved flood management, flood conveyance, or flood risk mitigation; creation, enhancement or restoration of parks, habitat or wetlands; improved public access to waterways; enhanced or new recreational opportunities; and greening of schools. A Community Investment Benefit also includes a benefit to the community derived from a Project or Program that improves public health by reducing heat island effect and increasing shade or planting of trees or other vegetation that increase carbon reduction/sequestration and improve air quality.

### Other Provisions

- Section 18.07(B)2.c: Funding for Projects that provide DAC Benefits shall not be less than one hundred and ten percent (110%) of the ratio of the DAC population to the total population in each Watershed Area. To facilitate compliance with this requirement, the District will work with stakeholders and Watershed Coordinator(s) to utilize existing tools to identify high-priority geographies for water-quality improvement projects and other projects that create DAC Benefits within DACs, to help inform WASCs as they consider project recommendations.
- Section 18.07(B)2.d: Each Municipality shall receive benefits in proportion to the funds generated within their jurisdiction, after accounting for allocation of the one hundred ten percent (110%) return to DACs, to the extent feasible, to be evaluated annually over a rolling five (5) year period.

### Regional Program Guidance for Interpreting "Disadvantaged Community Benefit"

The following Interim Guidance supports ongoing decisions at the WASCs and Project proponents

1. Projects that provide any of the benefits sought by the SCW Program (Water Quality Benefit, Water Supply Benefit, or Community Investment Benefit) directly to a disadvantaged community will be considered as providing the Disadvantaged Community Benefit.
2. Projects where any of the construction effort is within a census block group designated as a disadvantaged community will be considered "within" a disadvantaged community, and therefore providing a Disadvantaged Community Benefit.
3. Projects where none of the construction effort is within a census block group designated as a disadvantaged community, but where the completed Project will provide a **direct benefit** inside a census block group designated as a disadvantaged community, will be considered as providing a Disadvantaged Community Benefit. If two potential project locations provide substantially equivalent benefits to a Disadvantaged Community but one is physically located within that

Disadvantaged Community, the prospective Project developer(s) should pursue the location within the Disadvantaged Community to the extent otherwise feasible.

4. Whether a Project provides a “direct benefit” as used in SCW Program policy and within #3 above will be a decision made by WASCs on a project-by-project basis, considering the goals of the SCW Program, the benefits provided to the community by each Project, and the area within which those benefits will be felt. See section, “Consideration of Direct Benefit,” below, for additional guidance.
5. The WASC, in its determination of whether a Project provides “direct benefit” to members of a disadvantaged community, should strongly rely on documented public support by members of that community such as, CBOs, NGOs, elected representatives and other stakeholders. Similarly, decisions by the WASC can rely upon the lack of documented public support, or the presence of documented resistance from members of a community. See section, “Community Support,” below, for additional guidance.
6. The designation as to whether a Project is providing a Disadvantaged Community Benefit may be modified from the original application during an agenda discussion of a Project. Any voting WASC member may suggest adjusting the disadvantaged community benefit designation of a Project (in accordance with District Code Section 18.07.B.2.c) as part of a motion related to the formation of a SIP, either to say that a Project claiming a Disadvantaged Community Benefit does not provide one, or that a Project that did not claim to provide a Disadvantaged Community Benefit in the application does provide a benefit. In the latter case, the WASC would need to request additional information about the Disadvantaged Community Benefit from the Project developer, consistent with the questions in the Project Module. See sections titled “Relevant information in the Project Module” and “WASC Tools and Strategies,” below.
7. When a Project judged to be providing benefits to members of a disadvantaged community is included in a recommended 5-year SIP, the total amount of funding provided by the regional program towards the Project is used to make the 110% investment calculation.

### Relevant information in the Project Module

All applicants seeking funding through the Regional Program must submit a Feasibility Study, or equivalent, for review by the Scoring Committee and one of nine WASCs. Feasibility Studies are submitted using the web-based Project Module.

The Project Module currently includes the following prompts related to Projects seeking to provide benefits to members of disadvantaged communities:

- Will the Project provide benefit to a disadvantaged community?
  - *Note that the questions below are posed within the Project Module only if the applicant answers “YES” to this first question.*
- Is the Project located in a [disadvantaged community] Census Block Group as defined by SCW?
- If no, please describe if there is a formal or informal community boundary more appropriate

than a Census Block Group boundary to consider for the benefit area of a particular project where the median householder income statistic or current Cal Environ Screen tool considers that community "disadvantaged".

- Describe how the Project will provide benefits to a [disadvantaged community].
- Describe how the Project will provide water quality benefits to a [disadvantaged community].
- Describe how the Project will provide water supply benefits to a [disadvantaged community].
- Describe how the Project will provide community investment benefits to a [disadvantaged community].
- Describe how the Project engaged the benefitting [disadvantaged community] to date.

By default, the Project's Disadvantaged Community Benefit designation will be displayed as a YES or a NO based on the entries made by Project proponents.

### Consideration for "Direct Benefit" Determination

California has two policy systems for identifying disadvantaged communities, one is CalEnviroScreen which is managed by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), the other is within the State Water Code and uses a median household income statistical test. In both policy systems, census boundaries are used because the relevant socio-economic and demographic data is differentiated using those boundaries. However, both state policies do not define what a "community" means. The use of the census boundaries as community boundaries is a convention in these programs, not a formal policy. Because a "community" is undefined within the Water Code related policy system, any appropriate geographic boundary that supports the median household income statistical test can be deemed as a "disadvantaged community."

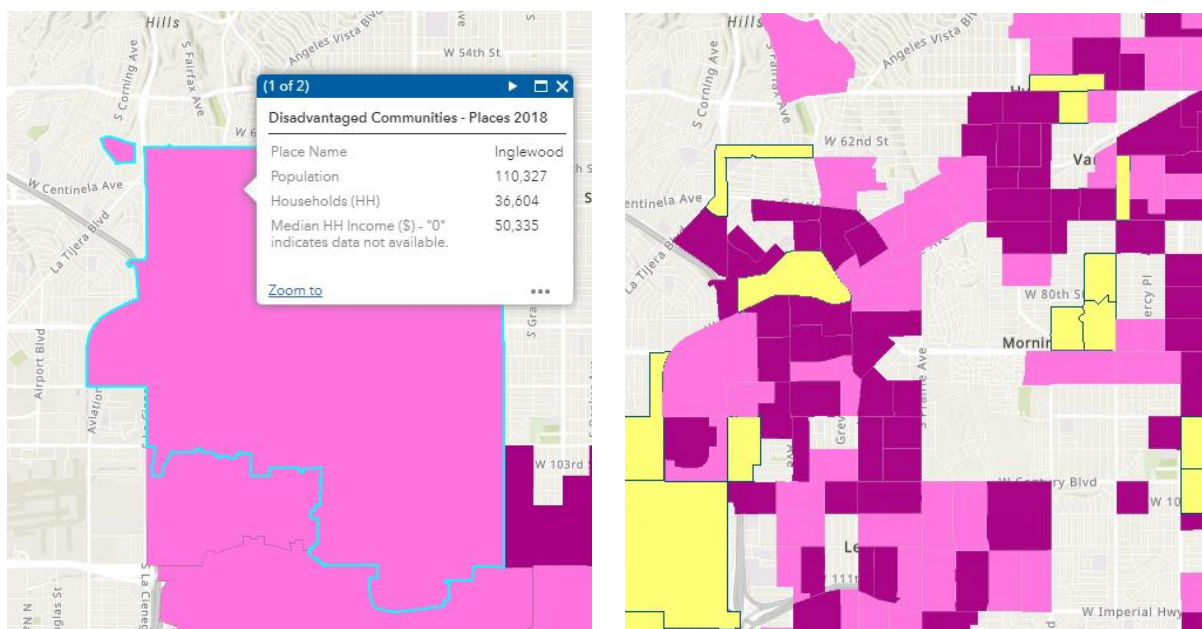
Unlike the state policy, SCW Program directs that Census Block Groups are communities, some of which are disadvantaged, and some of which are not. Functionally, Census Block Groups are rarely perceived as a community by any community members, the agencies that serve them, or the elected representatives at various levels. In fact, Census Tracts and Blocks rarely have any familiarity or utility outside the Census itself, and the use of the demographic data that is differentiated with those boundaries. Census Places, however, are another geographic unit used by the Census and are typically drawn to contain political or social geographies that have meaningfulness for the people who live and work there.

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) maintains a Disadvantaged Community Mapping Tool for the use across many programs that it administers. The tool is found at the link below and includes both 2016 and 2018 US Census data for analyzing disadvantaged communities. The SCW Program currently uses 2016 data to determine the targeted ratios of investment into Disadvantaged Communities but is expected to be updated roughly every five years. In the tool, Census Places, Tracts, and Block Groups can be viewed to understand their median household income and its relation to the statewide median household income.

- Link to DWR Disadvantaged Community Mapping Tool: <https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/dacs/>
- Link to CalEPA CalEnviroscreen: <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen>

### Inglewood Example

If you calculate the median household income for the city of Inglewood as a Census Place (Figure 1), you find that the city has a median household income below 80% of the statewide median household income, and therefore can be considered a disadvantaged community. However, when you review the many Census Block Groups within the city of Inglewood (Figure 2), you find that some are considered disadvantaged, some severely disadvantaged (defined in the State Water Code as having a median household income below 60% of the statewide median household income), and some are neither.



*Figure 1 - Inglewood Census Place (DWR Disadvantaged Community Mapping Tool): Pink is disadvantaged, and purple is severely disadvantaged.*

This example is shared to reveal that a pure focus on Census Blocks may inadvertently omit Projects that are of critical importance to communities that collectively have unmet needs and are therefore intended to benefit from the disadvantaged community policies of the SCW Program.

Benefits within a community boundary can be identified formally (like the city of Inglewood) or less formally (like the community of Pacoima, where the median household income calculation using that boundary supports the designation of “disadvantaged community”), or when CalEnviroscreen suggests unjust cumulative impacts are experienced inside that boundary. In any such cases, a WASC would be justified considering that Project as providing benefits across the entire area within that boundary. This is reiterated in three steps, below:

# SCW Program 2022 Interim Guidance

## Implementing Disadvantaged Community Policies in the Regional Program



1. Is there a formal or informal community boundary more appropriate than Census Block Group boundaries to consider for the benefit area of a particular Project? *If yes...*
2. Using that boundary as a community, does the median householder income statistic or the current CalEnviroScreen tool consider that community “disadvantaged?” *If yes...*
3. Does the WASC wish to recommend that the Project will provide benefits across the entire community boundary?

The following municipalities are within the SCW Program boundaries, and are US Census places that have an MHI below 80% of the statewide MHI (2018 data), and therefore could be considered disadvantaged at the scale of the municipality (alphabetical):

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| • Bell             | • Inglewood      |
| • Bellflower       | • Lynwood        |
| • Bell Gardens     | • Maywood        |
| • Commerce         | • Montebello     |
| • Compton          | • Paramount      |
| • Cudahy           | • Pomona         |
| • El Monte         | • Rosemead       |
| • Gardena          | • San Fernando   |
| • Hawaiian Gardens | • South El Monte |
| • Hawthorne        | • South Gate     |
| • Huntington Park  | • Walnut Park    |

### Community Support

The SCW Program places priority on developing community support for Projects that yield Water Quality Benefits, Water Supply Benefits, and Community Investment Benefits. Within the scoring process for regional Projects, points are available for Projects that document community support.

One of the most effective ways to document if a Project will provide benefit to a community is if the community itself says so and expresses support. Project proponents are encouraged to obtain letters of support documenting that communities who will benefit from the Project are, in fact, eager for those Project benefits and supportive of the effort. WASCs too, when considering which communities will benefit from regional Projects, can rely on assertions from communities and their representatives that the Project will provide them benefits. This underscores the importance of empowering community members to voice their perceived benefits through community education and engagement.

This approach can be very effective when Projects are anticipated to provide regional benefits, some of which will accrue to one or many disadvantaged communities. If a Project proponent engages with members of those communities and their representatives and has received their concurrence that the Project benefits will be felt by their community, this becomes strong evidence that the Project will provide a Disadvantaged Community Benefit.

WASCs can look towards the letters of support that are provided by a Project proponent, or to public engagement during the programming of the SIPs. Public testimony offered during public meetings that expresses how a Project will, or will not, provide benefits to a community can be part of the decision-making process of the WASC as the question of “direct benefit” is settled.

### WASC Tools and Strategies

The following strategies are available to the members of WASCs to assist in determining the appropriateness of each Project’s claim of providing, or not providing, benefits to members of disadvantaged communities:

**Tools and strategies to evaluate Disadvantaged Community Benefits that WASC members can use during Project evaluation:**

- The WASC can read the justification provided in the application and submitted Feasibility Study about Disadvantaged Community Benefits claimed for the Project.
- During presentations by Project proponents, the WASC members can ask questions about the Disadvantaged Community Benefits claimed for the Project.
- During the agendized Project Discussion period, any voting WASC member may suggest modifying the Disadvantaged Community Benefit designation of a Project in accordance with 18.07.B.2.c and the recommended criteria described above as part of a motion related to the formation of a SIP.
  - When modifying a Disadvantaged Community Benefit designation from NO to YES, where justification was therefore not provided in the Project Module application and submitted Feasibility Study, the WASC may consider the recommended criteria described herein and seek equivalent information to that solicited in the Project Module and otherwise as necessary.

**Tools and strategies to evaluate Disadvantaged Community Benefits that WASC members can use at any time:**

- WASCs can ask their Watershed Coordinator(s) to evaluate and report to the WASC how the people, city and county agencies, and other stakeholders would describe the preferred Disadvantaged Community Benefits in the Watershed Area.
- WASCs can invite informational presentations from agencies, organizations, and other stakeholders to better understand potential Disadvantaged Community Benefits sought and challenges faced in the Watershed Area.



### Long-Term Vision for Disadvantaged Community Benefits

The District recognizes that, long-term, additional tools and engagement are needed to enhance efforts across the SCW Program to achieve benefits sought by those who live in, work in, and represent disadvantaged communities. While not appropriate to include within this Interim Guidance, the District anticipates pursuing additional activities and exploring further potential guidance in 2024.

- **Develop metrics for tracking and evaluating Disadvantaged Community Benefits:** As noted in the “Purpose” section, the District is facilitating the development of a study that will support future guidance related to both the planning and evaluation/monitoring of benefits within Disadvantaged Communities.
- **Evaluating and sharing accomplishments of Watershed Coordinators:** Watershed Coordinators are a key element within the SCW Program for ensuring communities are engaged and able to influence the Regional Program in each Watershed Area. Providing engagement opportunities, education, and technical assistance to members of disadvantaged communities will be fundamental to the watershed coordinators’ work. Future guidance will evaluate and share accomplishments from the watershed coordinators efforts.
- **Evaluating community support or opposition:** One element that is addressed generally in this Interim guidance is how the WASCs, the Scoring Committee, and the Regional Oversight Committee can rely on representations of community support or opposition as part of their decision-making. It is expected that future guidance will further describe how community support can additionally influence the SCW Program.
- **Assessment of “who benefits” from Projects in the Regional Program:** Both the disadvantaged community investment and the municipal return elements of the Regional Program require information about how a Project’s benefits are received by specified groups of people. The question of who benefits from a Project or its components is difficult to solve systematically because the characteristics of Projects are so varied. Within SCW Program context, asserting whether members of a disadvantaged community ultimately benefit from a Project remains a decision for the Board of Supervisors when they consider adopting a SIP as recommended by the WASCs and ROC.

Work is underway within the District to develop more tools for making these judgments, to support engagement, Project development, WASC deliberation, and quantification of achievement of the SCW Program ordinance goals and priorities around targeted funding and the accrual of benefits. The development of these tools includes further engagement opportunities and the resulting tools will support future guidance.

- **Further clarifying what constitutes a “community”:** The current policy, as described above, directs the consideration of Census Block Groups while acknowledging that the Regional Program is conceptually focused on Projects that provide regional benefits. This means that Projects can benefit multiple communities that are distant from the physical Project. When considering “disadvantaged communities” as the beneficiary of investments in the Regional Program, who and what constitutes a “community” requires additional guidance to be



developed in collaboration across multiple interested parties in the SCW Program. The alignment between scales – the scale of the Regional Program’s focus on Watershed Areas, the scale of community boundaries, and the scale of the benefit area of Projects – is expected to be explored further. Future guidance is intended to include efforts to bring more certainty for community members, elected leaders, municipal and county staff, Project proponents, and decision-making bodies inside SCW Program about how to judge or quantify the beneficiaries of a Project.

- **Revisiting inclusive language:** Multiple policies at the state and regional levels, including the SCW Program, use the term “disadvantaged community” to explain how aspects of the program are intended to provide enhanced or targeted support to communities that are low-income, pollution burdened, underserved, or historically and currently marginalized or underrepresented. Future guidance within the program may include incorporation of additional inclusive language that better captures the richness and complexity of these communities.
- **Strengthening anti-displacement policies:** The Regional Program Fund Transfer Agreement, when describing the Stakeholder and Community Outreach/Engagement Plan required of every signatory, refers to “activities and measures to mitigate against displacement and gentrification.” It also requires the plan to include commitments to comply with “any County-wide displacement policies” and “specific anti-displacement requirements associated with other funding sources.” The role of Projects in the SCW Program Regional Program to support anti-displacement is one that could be strengthened in future guidance, as the County and cities adopt additional practices and policies, and as additional policies are added to other funding programs.
- **Advancing workforce development:** The SCW Program has explicit goals to support workforce development. Chiefly, this is being carried out within the District Program, as an element of the broader Education Program, and is still early in its development. Many WASCs have considered, and heard public comment regarding, the role of Projects within the Regional Program providing workforce development and jobs that benefit all communities, but also specifically members of disadvantaged communities. Future guidance is expected to discuss the relationship between elements of the Regional Program and the workforce development within the District Program, and how those SCW Program elements could leverage benefits to members of disadvantaged communities.

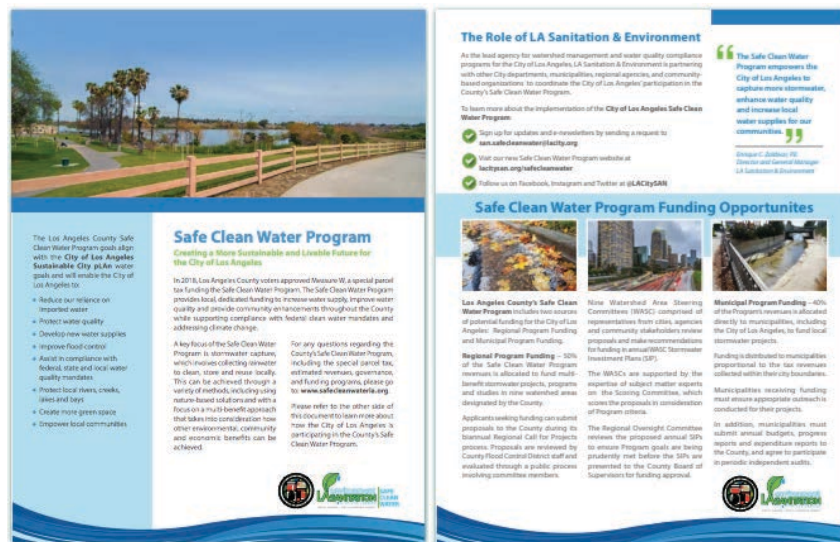
# Appendix E

## Safe Clean Water Program

### Community Outreach and Engagement Tool Kit

For copies of these outreach pieces, or assistance in creating outreach materials for a City of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program Project, please send an e-mail to: [san.safecleanwater@lacity.org](mailto:san.safecleanwater@lacity.org).

## Program Fact Sheet



**The Role of LA Sanitation & Environment**

As the lead agency for watershed management and water quality compliance programs for the City of Los Angeles, LA Sanitation & Environment is partnering with other City departments, municipalities, regional agencies, and community-based organizations to coordinate the City of Los Angeles participation in the County's Safe Clean Water Program.

To learn more about the implementation of the City of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program:

- Sign up for updates and/or newsletters by sending a request to: [san.safecleanwater@lacity.org](mailto:san.safecleanwater@lacity.org)
- Visit our new Safe Clean Water Program website at: [lacsan.org/safecleanwater](http://lacsan.org/safecleanwater)
- Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter at @LACitySAN

**The Safe Clean Water Program empowers the City of Los Angeles to capture more stormwater, enhance water quality and increase local water supplies for our communities.**

—Douglas C. Johnson, PE  
Director and General Manager  
LA Sanitation & Environment

**Safe Clean Water Program**  
Creating a More Sustainable and Livable Future for the City of Los Angeles

In 2018, Los Angeles County voters approved Measure W, a special parcel tax funding the Safe Clean Water Program. The Safe Clean Water Program provides local, dedicated funding to increase water supply, improve water quality and provide community enhancements throughout the County while supporting compliance with federal clean water mandates and addressing climate change.

A key focus of the Safe Clean Water Program is stormwater reduction, which involves collecting wastewater, including the special parcel tax, addressing nonpoint runoff, and funding programs, please go to [www.safecleanwater.org](http://www.safecleanwater.org)

For any questions regarding the County's Safe Clean Water Program, please refer to the other side of this document for more about the City of Los Angeles is participating in the County's Safe Clean Water Program.

**Safe Clean Water Program Funding Opportunities**

**Los Angeles County's Safe Clean Water Program** includes two sources of potential funding for the City of Los Angeles: Regional Program Funding and Municipal Program Funding.

**Regional Program Funding**—50% of the Safe Clean Water Program revenue is allocated to fund multi-benefit stormwater projects, programs and studies in nine watershed areas designated by the County. Applicants seeking funding can submit proposals to the County during its Stormwater Regional Call for Projects process. Proposals are reviewed by County Flood Control District staff and evaluated through a public process involving committee members.

**Nine Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs)** comprised of representatives from cities, agencies and community stakeholders review proposals and make recommendations for funding in annual WASC Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs). The WASCs are supported by the expertise of subject matter experts on the Steering Committee, which reviews the proposals by consideration of Program criteria.

The Regional Oversight Committee reviews the proposed annual SIPs to ensure Program goals are being prioritized prior to the SIPs are presented to the County Board of Supervisors for funding approval.

**Municipal Program Funding**—40% of the Program's revenue is allocated directly to municipalities, including the City of Los Angeles, to fund local stormwater projects. Funding is distributed to municipalities proportional to the tax revenues collected within their city boundaries. Municipalities requesting funding must submit appropriate evidence to be considered for funding.

In addition, municipalities must submit annual budgets, propose projects and expenditures reports to the County, and agree to participate in periodic independent audits.

## Project Fact Sheet Templates



**Safe Clean Water Program**

The Los Angeles County Safe Clean Water Program goals align with the City of Los Angeles Sustainable City plan water goals and will enable the City of Los Angeles to:

- Reduce our reliance on imported water
- Protect water quality
- Develop new water supplies
- Improve flood control
- Avoid in compliance with federal, state and local water quality mandates
- Protect local rivers, creeks, lakes and bays
- Create more green space
- Empower local communities

**Ballona Creek TMDL Project**  
Creating a More Sustainable and Livable Future for the City of Los Angeles

The Ballona Creek Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Project is a watershed-based local project approved by the Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment Department for funding a combination of the Los Angeles County Safe Clean Water Program.

The Ballona Creek watershed encompasses 170 square miles and is highly urbanized with its primary water use and 10 percent more commercial and industrial use than the County's average. The watershed is a major source of nonpoint runoff to the Los Angeles County Sanitation Department's Ballona Creek Treatment Plant. The project will improve water quality and reduce nonpoint runoff to the Los Angeles County Sanitation Department's Ballona Creek Treatment Plant.

Water quality in Ballona Creek and its tributaries is impaired by pollutants such as fecal coliform, bacteria, and sediment. The project will improve water quality and reduce nonpoint runoff to the Los Angeles County Sanitation Department's Ballona Creek Treatment Plant.

**Safe Clean Water Program**

The Los Angeles County Safe Clean Water Program goals align with the City of Los Angeles Sustainable City plan water goals and will enable the City of Los Angeles to:

- Reduce our reliance on imported water
- Protect water quality
- Develop new water supplies
- Improve flood control
- Avoid in compliance with federal, state and local water quality mandates
- Protect local rivers, creeks, lakes and bays
- Create more green space
- Empower local communities

**Wilmington Neighborhood Greening Project**  
Creating a More Sustainable and Livable Future for the City of Los Angeles

The Wilmington Neighborhood Greening Project will improve water quality and reduce nonpoint runoff to the Los Angeles County Sanitation Department's Wilmington Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project will improve water quality and reduce nonpoint runoff to the Los Angeles County Sanitation Department's Wilmington Wastewater Treatment Plant.

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**Wilmington Neighborhood Greening Project**  
Creating a More Sustainable and Livable Future for the City of Los Angeles

The Wilmington Neighborhood Greening Project will improve water quality and reduce nonpoint runoff to the Los Angeles County Sanitation Department's Wilmington Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project will improve water quality and reduce nonpoint runoff to the Los Angeles County Sanitation Department's Wilmington Wastewater Treatment Plant.

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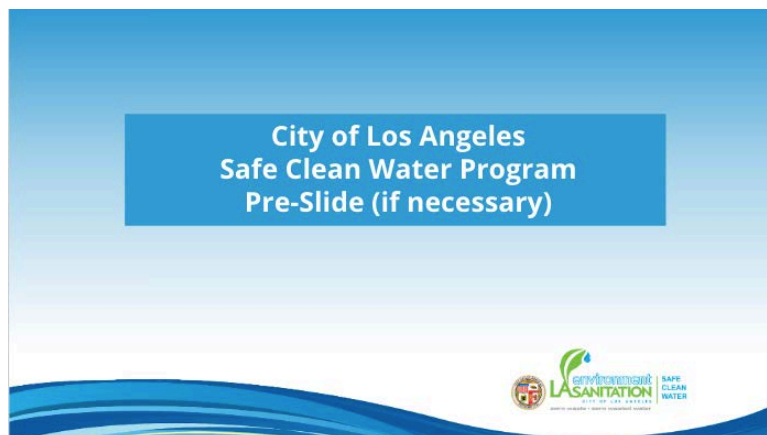
## SCWP Program Report Covers

### Single, One and Three Images Options

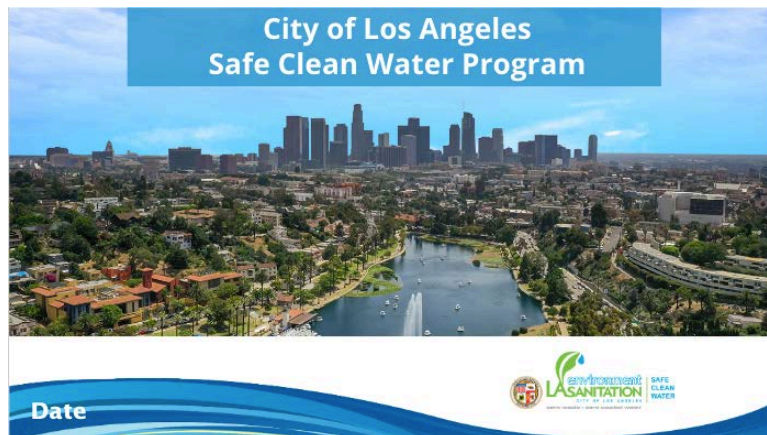


## PowerPoint Presentation Templates

1. Presentation Pre-Slide (if necessary)
2. Title Page Slide
3. Presentation Content Slide
4. Presentation End Slide



Presentation Pre-Slide



Title Page Slide

City of Los Angeles, Safe Clean Water Program

Program Aesthetic / Theme

1. Unique graphic of water and a wave and a light blue color palette to create a recognizable aesthetic.
2. Evokes images of clean water and the greening of communities that accompany local, secure and dedicated water supply .
3. A toolkit of materials developed with this aesthetic include:
  - Report Cover
  - Program Fact Sheet
  - Project Specific Fact Sheets
  - PowerPoint Presentation Template
  - E-Blast/E-Newsletter Templates
  - Optional: Social Media Templates
  - Optional: Modified LASAN Logo with SCWP Branding

environment  
**LAsanitation**  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
zero waste • zero wasted water

SAFE  
CLEAN  
WATER

Presentation Content Slide

Thank You!

Project Contact Name  
Phone #  
E-mail Information

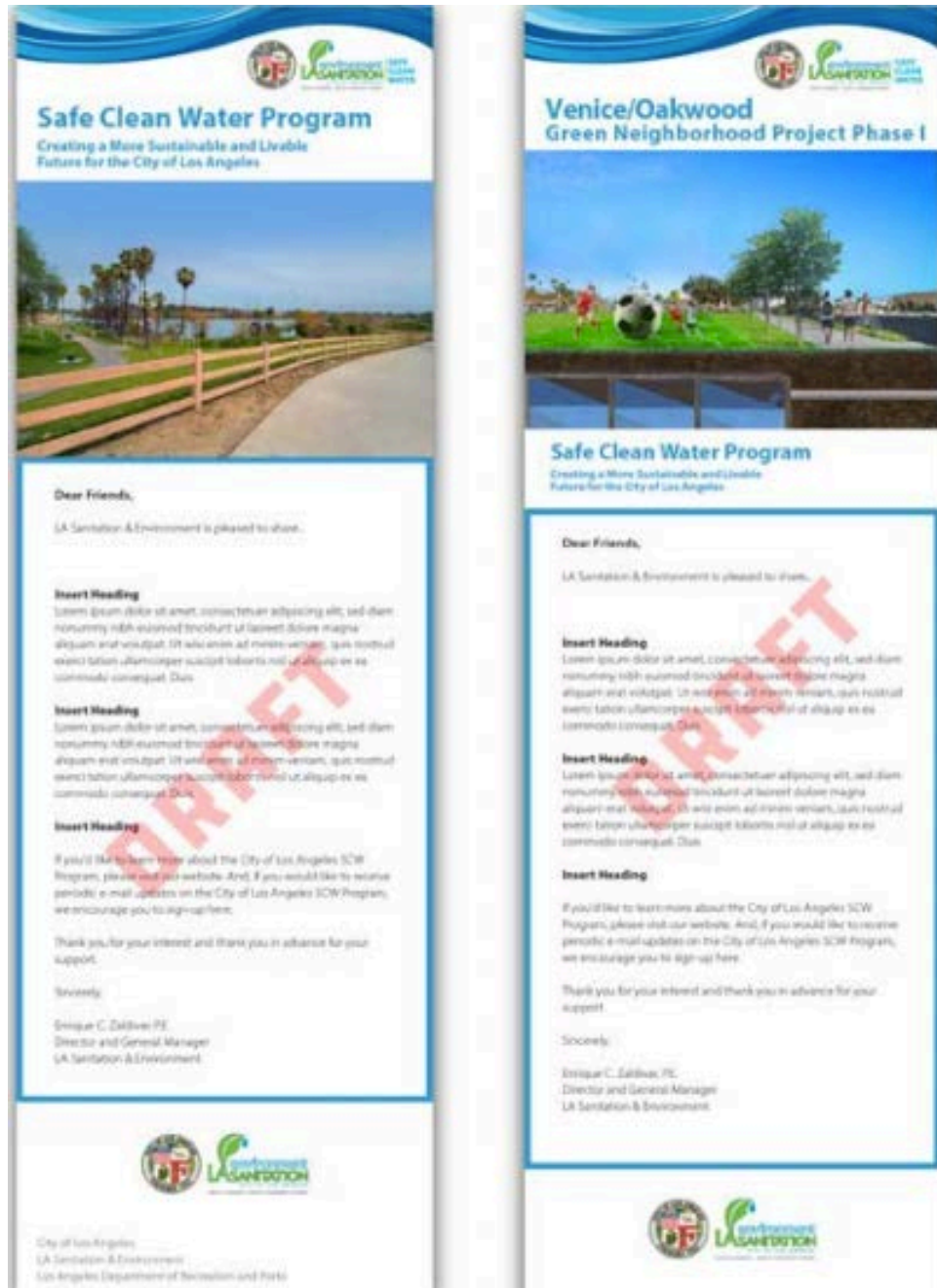
environment  
**LAsanitation**  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
zero waste • zero wasted water

SAFE  
CLEAN  
WATER

Presentation End Slide



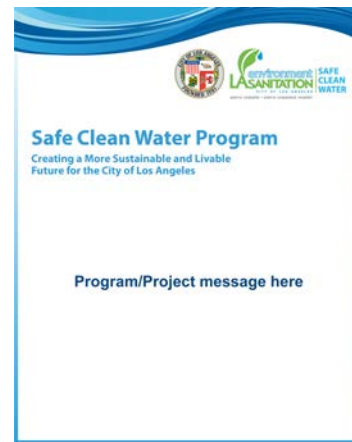
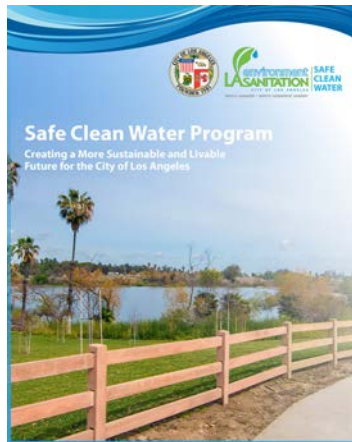
## E-newsletter and E-blast Templates



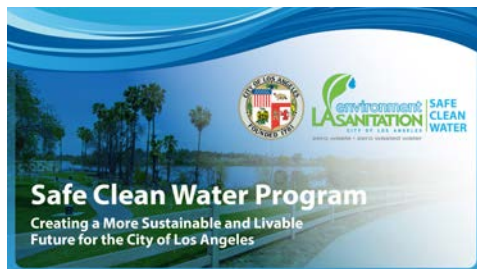
## Social Media Post Templates



Facebook



Instagram



Twitter

## **Appendix F**

### **Municipal Program Project-Specific Outreach Worksheet and Checklist**

The purpose of the Municipal Project-Specific Outreach Worksheet & Checklist is to ensure that each municipal project includes adequate and appropriate outreach. They serve as a guide for project teams, from project inception to post-construction, to ensure the LA County Safe Clean Water Program outreach and engagement requirements are satisfied and that City of Los Angeles outreach principles are also met.

The following pages include a worksheet template and a checklist template that can be used by project teams for each municipal project.

## Municipal Project-Specific Outreach Worksheet

This worksheet should be used by project teams at the project's outset to list potential project stakeholders, issues and outreach/engagement ideas.

Project Name	
Project Team Members / Contact Information	
Watershed Area Steering Committee	
Other City of Los Angeles Department Stakeholders (e.g. Recreation and Parks)	
Potential Project Community Partners (e.g. schools, other cities, LA County, non-profit organizations)	
City Council District(s)	
Neighborhood Council(s)	
LA County Supervisorial District(s)	
Other local elected officials of potential interest (State Assembly, State Senate and Congressional Representative)	
LAUSD Board Member, if project is partnering with local school(s)	
Local Community-based organizations and Non-	



governmental organizations (e.g. resident associations, environmental organizations, local non-profit organizations)	
Project Scope Issues of Potential Interest / Concern to the Local Community	
Potential Project Construction Issues Of Concern / Interest to Project location stakeholders	
Local Community Issues to Consider That May Benefit or Adversely Affect the Project	
Recommendation for Outreach Materials in Languages Other Than English? What Languages?	
Local Community Events (e.g. Events that may present an opportunity to host a booth or provide a project presentation)	
Does the Project Present any Displacement and/or Gentrification Concerns?	
Other Potential Project Issues:	

## **Municipal Program Project-Specific Outreach Checklist**

The purpose of the Municipal Program Project-Specific Outreach Checklist is to ensure the LA County Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) outreach and engagement requirements are satisfied and that City of Los Angeles outreach principles are also met.

### **PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OUTREACH**

- Use Project-Specific Outreach Workshop to determine key stakeholders, potential issues and other project information.
- Develop Project fact sheet(s) and presentations using SCWP Toolkit (see Appendix C), including the translation of materials in other languages, as appropriate.
- Provide Project briefings to internal City departments and oversight groups as appropriate (e.g. Recreation and Parks, City Council, Working Group, AOC)
- Consult with City Council Office(s) regarding recommended community-based organizations (CBOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) Project stakeholders.
- Provide Project briefings to local CBOs and NGOs and other stakeholders elected officials, as appropriate.
- During consultations with elected officials and stakeholders, determine if the community could be concerned with any potential or perceived displacement or gentrification issues associated with the project and develop a strategy to address these concerns.
- Determine how local NGOs or CBOs will be involved with the Project and COCE for the Project, if applicable.
- Work with LASAN web master to create appropriate Project web page.

### **IN ANTICIPATION OF ANNUAL MUNICIPAL FUNDING**

- Develop the anticipated outreach schedule for the Project based on Project readiness and overall anticipated Project schedule.
- Develop COCE plan to be included with the Municipal Annual Plan that is required to be submitted no later than 45 days after the execution of the Municipal Funds Transfer Agreement.
- Ensure that the COCE plan includes or exceeds the minimum required COCE activities based on the Project cost, as discussed in the Strategic Community Outreach and Engagement Plan and the Funds Transfer Agreement.
- Include any potential displacement or gentrification issues associated with the Project and include a strategy to address these concerns.
- Describe in the COCE plan how local NGOs and/or CBOs will be involved with the Project and COCE for the Project, if applicable.

- Be prepared to include appropriate acknowledgement of credit to the LA County SCWP when promoting COCE activities funded by the program.

## **DESIGN/ENVIRONMENTAL/PRE-CONSTRUCTION OUTREACH**

- Once the required level of environmental review is determined, update COCE plan to include outreach and notification requirements, which are mandated by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), if applicable.
- Determine means and methods for community outreach and engagement. Refer to Methods section in the Strategic Community Outreach and Engagement Plan.
- Prepare for “boots on the ground” outreach to inform project design and preparation for eventual construction.
- Develop outreach materials, as applicable.
- Update issues, stakeholders and other information in the Project-Specific Outreach Worksheet, as needed.

## **PROJECT CONSTRUCTION OUTREACH**

- Approximately six (6) months prior to the start of the Project’s construction, develop a Construction Outreach Plan focused on potential construction impacts, construction schedule and other important information to assist Project neighbors and community stakeholders during construction.
- Approximately two (2) months prior to the Project’s ground breaking, develop a plan to hold a Project Ground Breaking Ceremony with City elected officials, City executives and community stakeholders. Incorporate social media and e-blasts using the Outreach Toolkit and press releases, as appropriate.
- Prepare construction signage for installation at project site providing acknowledgement of credit to the LA County Safe Clean Water Program, including LA County SCWP color logo and the following disclosure statement: “Funding for this project has been provided in full or in part from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District’s Safe Clean Water Program.” At a minimum, the sign should be 2’ x 3’ in size.
- During construction ensure that frequent project updates are provided to community members and project stakeholders using such tools as project construction notices, e-blasts, community meetings, web site updates and social media postings.

## **PROJECT COMPLETION, OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES**

- Approximately two (2) months prior to Project completion and implementation, develop a plan for Project Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with City elected officials, City executives and community stakeholders. Incorporate social media, e-blasts and press releases, as appropriate.
- Once monitoring and operations and maintenance activities, which are to be funded with LA County Safe Clean Water Program funds are planned, determine the appropriate community outreach and engagement activities that may be needed to keep the project stakeholders and neighbors informed. The LA County Safe Clean Water Program requires biennial outreach activities at a minimum.

## **LA COUNTY SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM MUNICIPAL PROGRAM REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

- Review the Reporting Requirements section of this Strategic Community Outreach and Engagement Plan and the executed Funds Transfer Agreement for the Project. Because the Annual Progress/Expenditure Report is required to include documentation of the COCE utilized for and/or achieved as compared to what is described in the Annual Plan, be prepared to document and provide photographs of all outreach activities for the Project.
- Based on the anticipated schedule for the Project, confirm the due dates for which Annual Progress/Expenditure Reports will need to be submitted to the Los Angeles County Safe Clean Water Program.

## **Appendix G**

### **Regional Program Project-Specific Outreach Worksheet and Checklist**

The purpose of the Regional Project-Specific Outreach Worksheet and Checklist is to ensure that each regional project includes adequate and appropriate outreach. They serve as a guide for project teams, from project inception to post-construction, to ensure the LA County Safe Clean Water Program outreach and engagement requirements are satisfied and that City of Los Angeles outreach principles are also met.

The following pages include a worksheet template and a checklist template that can be used by project teams for each regional project.

## Regional Program Project-Specific Outreach Worksheet

This worksheet should be used by project teams to list potential project stakeholders, issues and outreach/engagement ideas.

Project Name	
Project Manager	
Watershed Area Steering Committee	
Anticipated Project Safe Clean Water Program Score	
Disadvantaged Community Benefits	
Community Investment Benefits	
Nature Based Solutions	
Water Supply Benefits	
Water Quality Benefits	
Other City of Los Angeles Department Stakeholders (e.g. Recreation and Parks)	
Potential Project Community Partners (e.g. school(s), other cities, LA County, and non-profit organizations)	

City Council District(s)	
Neighborhood Council(s)	
LA County Supervisorial District(s)	
Other local elected officials of potential interest (State Assembly member(s), State Senator(s) and Congressional Representative(s))	
LAUSD Board Member (if project is partnering with local school/s)	
Local Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (e.g. resident associations, environmental organizations, local non-profit organizations)	
Project Scope Issues of Potential Interest and Concern to the Local Community	
Potential Project Construction Issues of Concern to Project Stakeholders	
Local Community Issues to Consider that may benefit or adversely affect the project	
Recommendation for outreach materials to be translated into languages other than English	

Local Community Events (e.g. events that may present an opportunity to host a booth or provide an informational presentation regarding the project)	
Does the project present any potential displacement and/or gentrification concerns?	
Other potential project issues:	



## **Regional Program Project-Specific Outreach Checklist**

The purpose of the Regional Program Project-Specific Outreach Checklist is to ensure the LA County Safe Clean Water Program outreach and engagement requirements are satisfied and that City of Los Angeles outreach principles are also met.

### **PRIOR TO PROJECT SUBMITTAL TO LA COUNTY SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM**

- Use Project-Specific Outreach Worksheet to determine key stakeholders, issues and other project information.
- Develop Project Fact Sheet(s) and Presentations using Outreach Toolkit including the translation of outreach materials into appropriate languages, as necessary.
- Provide Project briefings to sister City agencies, Council District Offices and consult regarding recommended community based organizations (CBOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and additional project stakeholders.
- Provide Project briefings to local CBOs and NGOs and other stakeholders and elected officials and organizations, as necessary.
- During consultations with elected officials and stakeholders, determine if the community could be concerned with any potential or perceived displacement or gentrification issues associated with the project and develop a strategy to address these concerns.
- Determine how local NGOs and CBOs will be involved with the Project and COCE for the Project, if applicable.
- Request letters of support from CBOs and NGOs to include with Regional Project submittal to LA County Safe Clean Water Program.
- Shepherd the project through the internal City approval process, involving briefing the Safe Clean Water Program Working Group, Administrative Oversight Committee, appropriate City Council committees and City Council review.
- Prepare to present information about the proposed project to the Watershed Area Steering Committee and/or the Watershed Coordinator.

### **DURING LA COUNTY SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM REVIEW**

- Monitor LA County Safe Clean Water Program meetings, including applicable Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC), Scoring Committee and Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) meetings.
- Provide Project presentations using Outreach Toolkit materials to SCWP Committees, as requested.

- Provide updates on LA County SCWP review of project to Council Office(s) and key project stakeholders. Use Outreach Toolkit, as needed.
- Update issues, stakeholders and other information in the Project-Specific Outreach Worksheet, as needed.
- Once the Project is confirmed by the WASC and ROC to be included in the WASC Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) that will be presented to the LA County Board of Supervisors for approval, be prepared to begin drafting the stakeholder and community outreach and engagement plan (COCE Plan) that is required by the LA County Safe Clean Water Program Regional Funds Transfer Agreement. The COCE Plan is to be included in the project scope of work associated with the Budget Plan submitted to the County of Los Angeles after the SIP approval by the Board of Supervisors as part of the funds transfer agreement process.
- Approximately one (1) month before the anticipated Board of Supervisors SIP approval, determine if a Project-specific e-blast and/or press release is appropriate to be prepared and approved for distribution upon SIP approval.

## **AFTER LA COUNTY SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM SIP APPROVAL**

- Provide updates on LA County Safe Clean Water Program approval of Project to elected officials and key project stakeholders.
- Develop the anticipated outreach schedule for the Project based on Project readiness and overall anticipated Project schedule.
- Finalize the COCE plan to be included with the Budget Plan scope of work that will be submitted to the LA County SCWP as part of the Funds Transfer Agreement.
- Ensure that the COCE plan includes or exceeds the minimum required COCE activities based on the Project cost, as discussed in the Outreach Components section of this Community Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan and the Funds Transfer Agreement.
- Include in the COCE plan if there are any potential displacement and/or gentrification issues associated with the Project and include strategies to address these concerns.
- Describe in the COCE plan how local NGOs and/or CBOs will be involved with the Project and COCE for the Project, if applicable.
- Be prepared to include appropriate acknowledgement of credit to the LA County Safe Clean Water Program when promoting COCE activities funded by the program.

## **DESIGN/ENVIRONMENTAL/PRE-CONSTRUCTION OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT**

- Update issues, stakeholders and other information in the Project-Specific Outreach Worksheet, as needed.
- Once the required level of environmental review is determined, update COCE plan to include outreach and notification requirements mandated by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), if applicable.
- Prepare for “boots on the ground” outreach to inform project design and preparation for eventual construction and determine materials/methods for outreach. Refer to the Messaging and Branding section and the Methods and Materials section of this Community Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan. Use the COCE Toolkit, as applicable.
- Update issues, stakeholders and other information in the Project-Specific Outreach Worksheet, as needed.

## **CONSTRUCTION OUTREACH**

- Approximately six (6) months prior to construction, develop a Construction Outreach Plan focused on potential construction impacts, construction schedule and other important information to assist project neighbors and community stakeholders during construction.
- Approximately two (2) months prior to breaking ground, develop a plan to hold a Project Ground Breaking Ceremony with elected officials, city executives and community stakeholders. Incorporate social media, e-blasts and press releases, as appropriate.
- Prepare construction signage, providing acknowledgement of credit to the LA County SCWP to be installed at project sites including the LA County SCWP color logo and the following disclosure statement: “Funding for this project has been provided in full or in part from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District’s Safe Clean Water Program.” At a minimum, the sign shall be 2’ x 3’ in size.
- During construction, ensure that frequent project updates are provided to project neighbors, stakeholders and elected officials using such tools as Project Construction Notices, e-blasts, community meetings, website updates and social media posts.

## **PROJECT COMPLETION AND OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES**

- Approximately two (2) months prior to Project completion and implementation, develop a plan for Project Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with City elected officials, City executives and community stakeholders. Incorporate social media, e-blasts and press releases, as appropriate.

- Once monitoring and operations and maintenance activities, which are to be funded with LA County Safe Clean Water Program funds are planned, determine the appropriate community outreach and engagement activities that may be needed to keep the project stakeholders and neighbors informed. The LA County Safe Clean Water Program requires biennial outreach activities at a minimum.

## **LA COUNTY SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM REGIONAL PROGRAM REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

- Review the Reporting Requirements section of this Community Outreach and Engagement Strategic Plan and the executed Funds Transfer Agreement for the Project. Because required information includes photo documentation (e.g. photos of community outreach events, stakeholder meetings, ground breaking ceremonies, and project site) of the phases or tasks of the Project completed during the reporting period, as appropriate, be prepared to develop a plan for gathering the documentation that is required for providing the required reports to the Los Angeles County Safe Clean Water Program.
- Based on the anticipated schedule for the Project, confirm the due dates for which Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports will need to be submitted to the LA County Safe Clean Water Program.
- Note also that annually, a summary of the Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports is to be submitted to the WASC to explain the previous year's Quarterly Progress/Expenditure Reports. The summary report is due six (6) months after the close of the fourth quarter.



# PROJECT SIGN DESIGN GUIDELINES

SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 3, 2022



SAFE  
CLEAN  
WATER



# **PROJECT SIGN DESIGN GUIDELINES SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM**

November 3, 2022

City of Los Angeles  
Department of Public Works

LA Sanitation and Environment

(800) 773-2489  
[www.lacitysan.org](http://www.lacitysan.org)

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Signs play a vital role in our daily lives. They provide direction, information, and are one of the most effective tools for sharing key messages with residents and visitors as well as offering quality and educational experiences.

Within the SCWP, signs are essential for branding the City of Los Angeles' Safe Clean Water Program's (City SCWP) identity and providing an educational experience for Angelenos and visitors.

The City SCWP project signs need to include clear messaging and information, be simple and understandable to all people, and respond to the public's needs and interests.

The City SCWP Project Sign Design Guidelines provide guidance on the development of a uniform system of professional and attractive signs to inform and educate the public on SCWP-funded projects throughout a project's entire life, including construction, permanent and interpretive signage.

The City SCWP Project Sign Design Guidelines provides guidance and addresses the signage needs for three different types of infrastructure projects:

- Site specific.
- Green infrastructure corridor.
- Gray infrastructure projects.

The goals of the City SCWP Project Sign Design Guidelines include the following:

- Contribute to quality resident and visitor experiences.
- Communicate key messages and information.
- Provide guidance on the uniform and consistent appearance and format for all City SCWP project signs (construction, permanent, and interpretive).
- Increase brand recognition and identity.

- Adhere to all national Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements.
- Improve the graphic and aesthetic quality of all signs.
- Increase the effectiveness of communicating to diverse audiences.

The goals of signs installed at City SCWP-funded projects include the following:

- Create quality public experiences when interacting with a City SCWP-funded project.
- Increase the brand recognition and identity of the City SCWP.
- Communicate key messages and information associated with a specific project.
- Establish a uniform and consistent aesthetic and format for signs needed for all phases of City SCWP-funded projects, including site-specific, green infrastructure corridor, and gray infrastructure projects.
- Increase the effectiveness of communicating with diverse audiences.
- Develop a consistent and sustainable sign program for all project phases, including construction, permanent, and interpretive.

This document summarizes the City SCWP project sign design guidelines in detail, offers guidance on the development of project signage, and outlines how to determine appropriate project signage throughout the entire life of a project to ensure an educational, safe, and quality experience for residents and visitors.

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

### 1.1 LA County Safe Clean Water Program

In November 2018, Los Angeles (LA) County voters approved Measure W, which created the Safe Clean Water Program administered by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LA County SCWP). Developed in collaboration with public health, environmental groups, cities, business, labor, and community-based organizations, LA County SCWP generates an estimated \$285 million annually from a countywide property tax assessment.

LA County SCWP goals include the following:

- Implement a plan for the County of Los Angeles' stormwater system to capture the billions of gallons of rainwater runoff lost in the County each year.
- Help protect LA's coastal waters and beaches from the trash and contaminants in stormwater that have the potential to make people sick and threaten marine life.
- Modernize LA's 100-year-old stormwater system infrastructure, using a combination of nature, science, and new technology.
- Help protect public health, ensuring safer, greener, healthier, more livable spaces.
- Prepare the Southern California region for the effects of a changing climate — including recurring cycles of drought, wildfires, and flooding.
- Require strict community oversight and independent auditing to ensure local monies raised stay local.

The LA County SCWP is divided into three separate programs - the Regional Program, the Municipal Program, and the LA County Flood Control District Program:

*Regional Program* – Fifty percent (50%) of the LA County SCWP annual revenues is allocated to fund regional multi-benefit stormwater projects, programs, and studies. An estimated \$142 million is allocated to the nine LA County watersheds for regional projects. Applicants seeking regional program funding are required to submit project-funding proposals to LA County through an annual Regional Call for Projects process. Applications are reviewed by LA County Flood Control District staff, evaluated through a public process, included in annual watershed-based Stormwater Investment Plans, and then approved by the LA County Board of Supervisors.

*Municipal Program* – Forty percent (40%) of the LA County SCWP annual revenues is disbursed directly to municipalities to fund local stormwater projects. Funding is distributed to cities proportional to the tax revenues collected within their jurisdictions. An estimated \$114 million is allocated to LA County's 88 cities and unincorporated areas for multi-benefit water quality and water capture projects. The City of Los Angeles receives an estimated \$34 million annually.

*LA County Flood Control District Programs* — Ten percent (10%) of the LA County SCWP annual revenues is utilized by the LA County Flood Control District. An estimated \$28 million is allocated to the LA County Flood Control District to develop and implement programs, which include a public education program, local workforce job training, and school education programs.

## 1.2 LA City Safe Clean Water Program

The Safe Clean Water Program's vision, mission and goals align with the City of Los Angeles' Sustainability Plan, which envisions a more sustainable, equitable and livable future for our region.

On May 5, 2020 the City of Los Angeles adopted Ordinance No. 186612, which established the City's Safe Clean Water Program Administrative Oversight Committee (AOC) to ensure the proper administration of the Safe Clean Water Program and identified LA Sanitation & Environment as the City's lead agency and Fund Administrator for the City's SCWP municipal program.

The AOC ensures the proper administration of the Safe Clean Water Program. Their duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Develop and review criteria for the selection of projects as proposed by City departments.
- Review project proposals to determine if they meet adopted project criteria.
- Oversee, direct, and monitor the program and projects to ensure timely completion within approved schedules and budgets.
- Monitor utilization and cost of City personnel, personal services contracts, expense, and equipment for the projects.
- Review Memoranda of Agreement or Understanding between City

departments and outside agencies concerning the program.

- Resolve any issues of concern between the departments to address program and project needs.
- Take any other action as may be necessary to oversee the program and projects.

As the lead agency for the City of Los Angeles' watershed management, water quality compliance programs and the Safe Clean Water Program, LA Sanitation & Environment (LASAN) partners with other City departments, the County of Los Angeles, other municipalities, regional agencies and non-governmental stakeholders to administer, oversee and coordinate the City of Los Angeles' Safe Clean Water Program.

## 1.3 Project Signage Approvals

As the City of Los Angeles' governing body ensuring the proper administration of the Safe Clean Water Program, the AOC shall have approval for the City of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program Project Sign Design Guidelines and for all Safe Clean Water Program project signs within their jurisdiction.

To ensure a uniform and consistent aesthetic and format for signs throughout all phases of City SCWP-funded projects, approval must be obtained from both LA Sanitation & Environment and the project's responsible department before the design, fabrication, and installation of all City SCWP project signs including construction, permanent or interpretive signage.

## CHAPTER 2 - STANDARD DESIGN ELEMENTS OF SIGNAGE

### 2.1 Elements of Safe Clean Water Program Project Signage

Standard design elements for SCWP project signage include the following:

- City of Los Angeles seal.
- LA County SCWP logo and acknowledgment language.<sup>1</sup>
- Project partners logos.
- LA SCWP Wave graphic.
- Fonts and materials as outlined in the sign specifications (See Appendix C).
- City of Los Angeles Mayor, and applicable City Council Member(s) names.
- Project name.
- Mechanism for finding project information (e.g. QR Code, website address, or phone number).

These elements are to be consistent for each type of City SCWP project sign.

### 2.2 City of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program Wave Graphic

The wave graphic creates and reinforces a single identity and establishes a brand for the City SCWP. This image of a wave is to be used on all City SCWP project signage with the phrase 'City of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program'.

LASAN standard sign design elements are outlined in Figure 1.

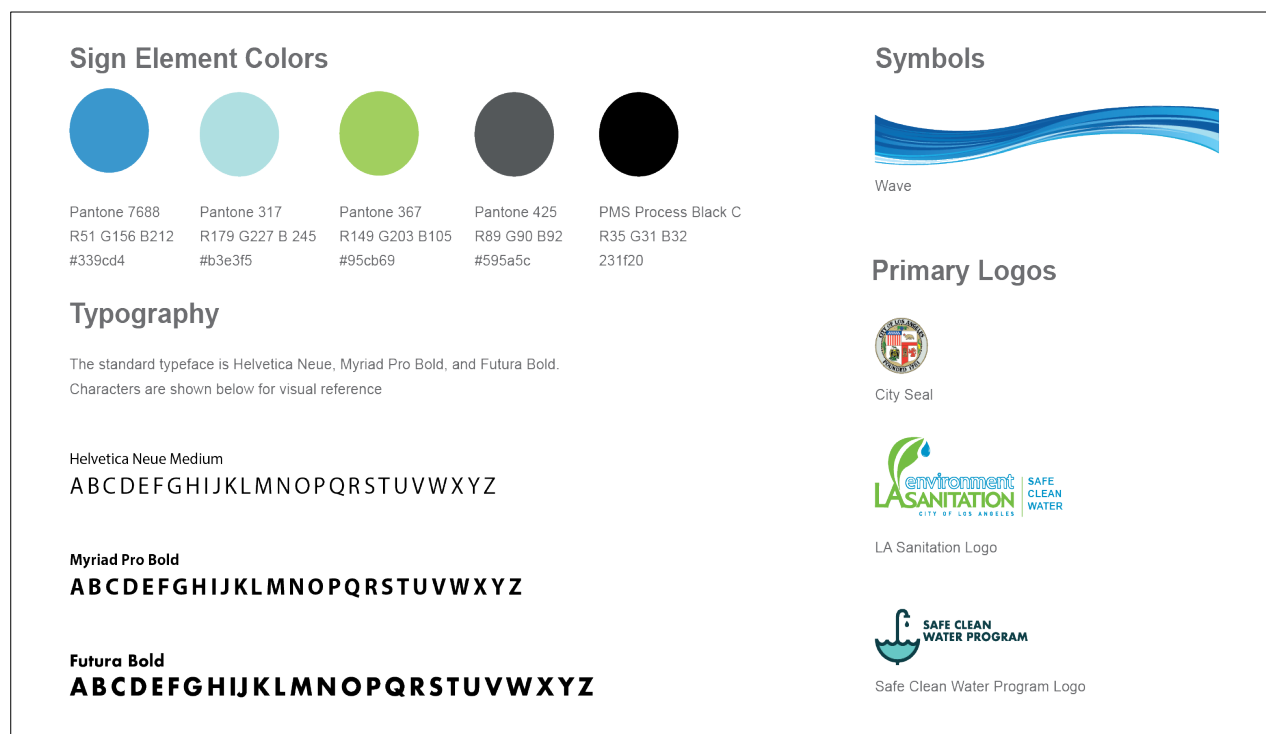


Figure 1

(1) Los Angeles County sign requirements as per Transfer Agreement between the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Sanitation, Agreement No. 2020RPCSMB04, Safe, Clean Water Program - Regional Program, Exhibit B, Section B-2, October 29, 2020.



The City SCWP wave should appear only in the following colors:

- Blue 1: PMS 7388 (R51, G156, B212).
- Blue 2: PMS 317 (R179, G227, B245).
- Green: PMS 367 (R149, G203, B105).
- Grey: PMS 425 (R89, G90, B92).
- Black: PMS Process Black C (R89, G90, B92).

The LASAN logo should appear only in the following colors:

- Blue: PMS 639 (C100, M0, Y100, K0).
- Green: PMS 368 (C60, M10, Y5, K0).
- White: PMS 000 C (C0, M0, Y5, K0).
- Black: PMS Process Black C (C75, M68, Y67, K90).

Do not use non-standard colors for the LASAN logos.

When placing partner logos on project signs, the correct logo specifications shall be used. Project managers shall liaise with departments regarding receipt and use of correct logo. When multiple logos are used, the City seal and logos shall be the same size and spaced equally.

The City SCWP wave and City seal are proportional and should not be expanded, stretched, condensed, or recreated. Original artwork is available from LASAN. To obtain the original artwork, please send an email to: [san.safecleanwater@lacity.org](mailto:san.safecleanwater@lacity.org). In the e-mail subject line, please include the name of the project and the nature of the request.

Additional LA Sanitation and Environment sign requirements include the following:

- When using multiple logos, the City of LA seal should always be placed first (i.e. farthest to the left).
- The LA Sanitation Safe Clean Water logo should be placed to the immediate right of the City seal.

- Project partners logos (as appropriate) should be placed to the right of the LA Sanitation logo.
- All logos should be the same size and height.
- Do not stretch any logo. If you change the size, maintain the size ratio.
- If you need a high-resolution logo, vector art, an EPS file, or an AI file, please contact LASAN at [san.safecleanwater@lacity.org](mailto:san.safecleanwater@lacity.org).
- Provide project contact information including a phone number, email address and website where more information can be found. For Public Works projects, please include the following:
  - LASAN's 24-hour Customer Care Center, 1 (800) 773-2489.
  - E-mail: [san.safecleanwater@lacity.org](mailto:san.safecleanwater@lacity.org).
  - Website: [www.lacitysan.org](http://www.lacitysan.org).
- Refer to the organization as LA Sanitation and Environment or LASAN.
- When appropriate, please include Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram logos with @lacitysan handle.
- Include the QR code below that directs residents to the City SCWP web site when applicable and as space permits.



## 2.3 County of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program Acknowledgement

The City of Los Angeles will include appropriate acknowledgment of credit to the Los Angeles County SCWP on all signs posted at project sites. All signs should include the LA County SCWP logo and the following disclosure statement: "Funding for this project has been provided in full or in

part from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's Safe Clean Water Program."

## 2.4 Elected Officials Acknowledgement

All City SCWP project signs (construction, permanent, and interpretive) shall acknowledge the Mayor of Los Angeles, City Council member(s), and other elected officials, as applicable, and on a case by case basis.

The lead agency for the project shall consult the Los Angeles City Attorney's office regarding the City's policy on the appropriate listing of elected officials on project signs during election cycles.

## 2.5 Project Partners Acknowledgement and Logos

All City SCWP project signs shall acknowledge project partners (e.g. partner departments, other city agencies, community based organizations) by including their names and applicable logos.

## 2.6 Ancestral Land Acknowledgement

Acknowledgement of the land and the watershed area as the unceded ancestral homelands of the Gabrielino Tongva, Ventureño Chumash, Gabrielino Kizh, and Fernandeño Tataviam Nations on interpretive project signage is recommended. This acknowledgement respects these Tribes' long-standing connection to and protection of an area's watershed. Additionally, it educates residents that Tribes are still present and that they were the original stewards of this land and its waters.

## 2.7 Funding Partners Acknowledgement

City SCWP projects, which receive funding from outside public or private sources shall acknowledge the funding agency, including its logo and appropriate acknowledgement language on all project signage.

## 2.8 Proposition O-Funded Projects

City SCWP projects, which also receive Proposition O funding, shall acknowledge Proposition O and include its logo as a funding partner on all appropriate signage.

## 2.9 Fonts

Fonts to be used on City SCWP project signs include upper-case and lower-case Helvetica Neue Medium, Myriad Pro Bold, and Futura Bold. Specific languages may require additional fonts (see Section 2.10). Font size will vary with the size of the sign and messaging. The text font size must be balanced with the size of logos and other graphics on the sign.

## 2.10 Nomenclature

The SCWP watershed areas within the jurisdiction of the City of Los Angeles consist of the Upper Los Angeles River watershed, the Central Santa Monica Bay watershed, and the South Santa Monica Bay watershed. Reference to major and minor tributaries within these watersheds (e.g. Ballona Creek, Arroyo Seco, Pacoima Wash) is encouraged to educate the general public about the characteristics of a specific watershed with a project's signage referencing the appropriate SCWP watershed area within which the project resides.

## 2.11 Language Access for Project Signage

Residents speak more than 200 different languages within Los Angeles' boundaries. To be inclusionary and transparent, City SCWP project signs should be translated from English into the primary language(s) spoken in the community surrounding the project.

Executive Directive No. 32, Strengthening Language Access in the City of Los Angeles (Issued December 16, 2021), creates a guiding language access plan and sets the



foundation for a citywide language access and accessible communication program and serves as a model for City departments.

LA Sanitation and Environment and its City SCWP partner departments shall work with the Citywide Language Access Coordinator and individual department language access coordinators to determine and address the language access needs of all project signage and follow the recommendations and requirements outlined in the City of Los Angeles' Language Access Plan.

## 2.12 General Guidelines

The following are general guidelines in the creation of City SCWP project signage:

1. Keep sign messages brief. Unnecessary information will confuse the viewer.
2. The line-space between two different messages should be greater than the line-space between lines of the same multiple-line message.
3. Do not allow text to run right up to the edge of a sign or border.
4. If a line of text needs to be reduced to fit on a sign, use commonly recognized abbreviations, or reduce the number of words or size of the font for the entire sign/message.
5. Use lettering and sign panel size that is appropriate for the distance and speed at which a sign is viewed (e.g. walking vs. driving).
6. Use sentence-case whenever possible. Avoid the use of all capital letters in text.
7. Ensure that project signs face the intended viewer, and that ADA requirements are referenced and adhered to in the positioning and posting of all signs.

## 2.13 Sign Design, Timing and Budget

Signage (construction, permanent and interpretive) should be included in all

construction drawings and specifications and included in each project's total budget and bid items. The sign design should be finalized in the later stages of a project's design with the project's final plans and specifications including construction, permanent and interpretive signage.

## 2.14 Sign Fabrication and Installation

Pedestal or post-mounted sign(s) are preferred when there is space (e.g. in a park). Composite materials are preferred for signs. For City SCWP green infrastructure corridor projects, permanent and interpretive signs should be fabricated and installed in compliance with LADOT requirements and specifications. Additional details are provided in Appendix C.

## 2.15 Social Media

When appropriate, please include the Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram icons on each sign. Examples of social media logos and LASAN links include the following:

### **Facebook:**



[www.facebook.com/lacitysan](http://www.facebook.com/lacitysan)

### **LinkedIn:**



[www.linkedin.com/company/lasanitation](http://www.linkedin.com/company/lasanitation)

### **Instagram:**



[www.instagram.com/lacitysan](http://www.instagram.com/lacitysan)

### **Eventbrite:**



[www.lacitysan.eventbrite.com](http://www.lacitysan.eventbrite.com)

### **Pinterest:**



[www.pinterest.com/lacitysan](http://www.pinterest.com/lacitysan)

### **YouTube:**



[www.youtube.com/c/lasanitationenvironment](http://www.youtube.com/c/lasanitationenvironment)

### **Twitter:**



[www.twitter.com/lacitysan](http://www.twitter.com/lacitysan)

### **Nextdoor:**



[www.nextdoor.com/agency/la-sanitation](http://www.nextdoor.com/agency/la-sanitation)

Do not create new social media accounts for City SCWP projects. Only the above LASAN accounts are approved. If you need something posted on social media, please contact LASAN at [san.safeandcleanwater@lacity.org](mailto:san.safeandcleanwater@lacity.org). In the subject line, place the name of the project as well as the nature of the request.

## CHAPTER 3 – SIGNAGE FOR SITE-SPECIFIC PROJECTS

This chapter includes information for signage for SCWP-funded site-specific projects and is organized by signage type: Construction, Permanent/Monument and Interpretive.

Site specific projects are defined as projects whose elements are included within a specific site (e.g. a park). Site-specific projects are often situated in locations that include public access; therefore, signage for these types of projects can be placed at the entrance to the site or along pedestrian walkways.

### 3.1 Site-Specific Projects – Construction Signage

#### 3.1.1 Purpose

Project construction signage is used to inform and educate residents, community members, and project stakeholders about a specific project, including its benefits, construction schedule, funding source(s), partner agencies and/or organizations and contact information if questions or concerns arise.

Examples of signs, including designs and photos of existing signs, are provided in Appendices A and B.

A temporary project identification sign is shown in Figure 2 below.

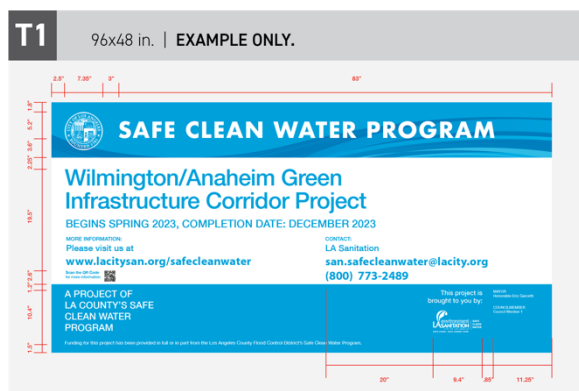


Figure 2

#### 3.1.2 Specifications and Manufacturing

The specifications for project signs will be different for every project and should be developed and written on a case by case basis.

Appendix C includes a sample of the specifications that should be developed for the manufacture and installation of project signs and included in project contract documents.

All materials used in the manufacturing and fabrication of a project's signs shall be durable and resistant to the elements and graffiti.

Project managers should consult with the Department of Public Works, Office of Community Beautification on the appropriate graffiti-repellent coating to apply to all project signage.

#### 3.1.3 Sign Cost

The cost of the construction sign(s) is an eligible project cost. Cost of signs will vary with each project and sign type. A typical temporary construction sign (4 feet by 8 feet) may cost \$400-\$800 to manufacture.

### 3.1.4 Location and Placement

The City project manager, site owner/operator, and project contractor shall determine the number and location of construction sign(s).

A suggested location could be a pre-existing entrance of the site or a banner on temporary construction fencing, which may surround the project. Banner design elements should be consistent with the branding, color, font(s), and logo(s) standards included herein. To avoid visual clutter, consider grouping multiple signs together.

Select a prominent location(s) where visitors and residents may safely access and easily read the sign(s).

### 3.1.5 Scheduling, Installation, and Maintenance

Construction information signage shall be installed 30 days before the start of the project's construction unless otherwise agreed upon by the project manager and contractor. Construction signage shall be removed within 30 days of a project's completion.

The contractor shall follow the guidelines provided by the project manager to produce, install, and maintain project signage, including project alert and project update signs.

A hotline phone number must be included on signs for projects that will require night work, weekend work, or work that will disrupt the normal daily activity of the residents in the project area for more than one week.

Project alert signs and project update signs must be placed at least one week before the alert or update occurrence.

All signs must conform to ADA requirements. For standards, refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 24.

The sign type and installation method chosen should be used consistently throughout the project site and the life of the construction of the project.

Consider the character of the project site or adjacent architecture when selecting an installation method. Local culture, history, and/or architecture may make it appropriate to modify installation details.

The construction contractor of the project site shall be responsible for maintaining construction signs. The required maintenance of signage consists of regular inspections for vandalism, including the cleaning and repair of signs as necessary as well as the replacement of signage that is irreparable.

Project managers should consult with the Department of Public Works, Office of Community Beautification on the appropriate graffiti-repellent coating to apply to signage.

## 3.2 Site-Specific Projects - Permanent/Monument Signage

### 3.2.1 Purpose

Permanent, or monument-style, project signage is used to inform and educate residents, community members, and project stakeholders about a specific project and its partner agencies.

See Appendices A and B for examples and photos of pre-existing project signs.

### 3.2.2 Specifications and Manufacturing

The specifications for project signs will be different for every project and should be developed and written on a case by case basis.

Appendix C includes a sample of the specifications that should be developed for the manufacture and installation of project signs and included in project contract documents.

All materials used in the manufacturing and fabrication of a project's signs shall be durable and resistant to the elements and graffiti.

Project managers should consult with the Department of Public Works, Office of Community Beautification on the appropriate graffiti-repellent coating to apply to all project signage.

### 3.2.3 Sign Cost

The cost of the sign(s) is an eligible project cost. Cost of signs will vary with each project and sign type. Larger signs (i.e., permanent or monument-type signs) may exceed \$20,000.

### 3.2.4 Local Character and Architecture

Consider the character of existing site architecture when selecting a design for the permanent/monument sign. Local culture, history, and/or architecture may make it appropriate to modify or incorporate specific elements into design details.

### 3.2.5 Location and Placement

The City project manager, site owner/operator, and project contractor will determine the number and location of permanent/monument sign(s).

A suggested location could be an existing entrance to the site or adjacent to a

pedestrian walkway through or around the project site.

Select a prominent location(s) where visitors and residents may safely access and easily read the sign(s).

To avoid visual clutter, consider grouping multiple signs together.

### 3.2.6 Scheduling, Installation, and Maintenance

Permanent/monument signage should be installed before the completion of the project. If the project requires permanent signage as defined in the project scope of work, then the contractor will be responsible for production and installation.

All signs must conform to ADA requirements. For standards, refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 24.

The sign type and installation method chosen should be used consistently throughout the project site and the life of the project.

Consider the character of existing site architecture when selecting an installation method. Local culture, history, and/or architecture may make it appropriate to modify installation details.

LASAN shall partner with LADOT, LADWP and Streets LA to identify projects and develop plans for the required maintenance of permanent project signage. The required maintenance of signage consists of regular inspections for vandalism, including the cleaning and repair of signs as necessary, as well as the replacement of signage that is irreparable.

### 3.3 Site-Specific Projects - Interpretive Signage

#### 3.3.1 Purpose

Interpretive project signage, which can include displays and/or kiosks, is used to inform and educate residents and visitors about a specific project, its multiple benefits, the surrounding watershed, its history and characteristics, and its partner agencies.

Interpretive signage also offers the opportunity to educate residents about pollutants of concern found in the watershed, the best management practices employed by the project to improve water quality, and specific good housekeeping practices that residents can adopt at home to keep those pollutants of concern out of the watershed's creeks and rivers.

Appendices A and B include sign designs and photos of existing signs that may be considered for content.

#### 3.3.2 Specifications and Manufacturing

The specifications for project signs will be different for every project and should be developed and written on a case by case basis.

Appendix C includes a sample of the specifications that should be developed for the manufacture and installation of project signs and included in project contract documents.

All materials used in the manufacturing and fabrication of a project's signs shall be durable and resistant to the elements and graffiti.

Project managers should consult with the Department of Public Works, Office of Community Beautification on the appropriate graffiti-repellent coating to apply to all project signage.

#### 3.3.3 Sign Cost

The cost of the sign(s) is an eligible project cost. Cost of signs will vary with each project and sign type. A typical interpretive sign (2 feet by 3 feet) may cost \$1,000-\$5,000 to manufacture, while large or complex interpretive signage (i.e., specialty high-end products, kiosk) may exceed \$20,000.

#### 3.3.4 Local Character and Architecture

Consider the character of existing site architecture when selecting a design for the interpretive signage. Local culture, history, and/or architecture may make it appropriate to modify or incorporate specific elements into design details.

#### 3.3.5 Location and Placement

The City project manager, site owner/operator, and project contractor will determine the number, location, placement, and content of interpretive signage.

Suggested locations for interpretive signs and/or displays include overlook areas, bulb-out areas off main pedestrian walkways, seating areas, and/or site access points. Locations should provide views of the topic addressed, if possible, and be appropriate to the topic. In determining the location of interpretive signage, select a location where residents and visitors may safely access and read the signage.

To avoid visual clutter, consider grouping multiple signs together.



### 3.3.6 Scheduling, Installation, and Maintenance

Interpretive signage should be installed before the completion of the project. If the project requires interpretive signage as defined in the project scope of work, then the contractor will be responsible for production and installation.

All signs must conform to ADA requirements. For standards, refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 24.

The sign design, type, and installation method chosen should be used consistently throughout the project site and the life of the project.

LASAN shall partner with LADOT, LADWP and Streets LA to identify projects and develop plans for the required maintenance of permanent project signage. The required maintenance of signage consists of regular inspections for vandalism, including the cleaning and repair of signs as necessary, as well as the replacement of signage that is irreparable.

### 3.4 Project Construction Contract Template Language

Project managers shall consult with the City Attorney to ensure that the appropriate project signage language referencing the SCWP Project Sign Design Guidelines is included in the project construction contract.



## CHAPTER 4 - SIGNAGE FOR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE CORRIDOR PROJECTS

This chapter includes information for City SCWP green infrastructure corridor projects and is organized by signage type: Construction, Permanent/Monument, and Interpretive.

Green infrastructure corridor projects pose unique challenges to signage as the project elements are typically located within or immediately adjacent to public rights-of-way. As such, green infrastructure corridor projects may not allow for traditional project signage.

### 4.1 Green Infrastructure Corridor Projects - Construction Signage

#### 4.1.1 Purpose

Project construction signage is used to inform and educate residents, community members, and project stakeholders about a green infrastructure corridor project, including its benefits, construction schedule, funding source(s), partner agencies and/or organizations, and contact information if questions or concerns arise.

Construction signage, including designs and photos of existing signs, are provided in Appendices A and B.

A temporary project identification sign is shown below in Figure 3.

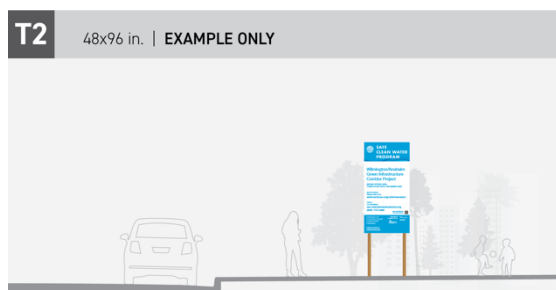


Figure 3

#### 4.1.2 Specifications and Manufacturing

The specifications for project signs will be different for every project and should be developed and written on a case by case basis.

Appendix C includes a sample of the specifications that should be developed for the manufacture and installation of project signs and included in project contract documents.

All materials used in the manufacturing and fabrication of a project's signs shall be durable and resistant to the elements and graffiti.

Project managers should consult with the Department of Public Works, Office of Community Beautification on the appropriate graffiti-repellent coating to apply to all project signage.

#### 4.1.3 Sign Cost

The cost of the sign(s) is an eligible project cost. Cost of signs will vary with each project and sign type. A typical temporary construction sign (4 feet by 8 feet) may cost \$400-\$800 to manufacture.

#### 4.1.4 Location and Placement

The City project manager and project contractor will determine the number and location of construction sign(s). Several construction signs may be appropriate to adequately educate and inform residents about the unique yet multi-beneficial nature of a green infrastructure corridor project.

Suggested methods could be the placement of vertically formatted signs or small banners on temporary construction fencing, which may surround project best



management practices (e.g. tree wells or parkway bioswales). Banner design elements should be consistent with the branding, color, font(s), and logo(s) standards included herein.

A temporary project identification sign is shown below in Figure 4.

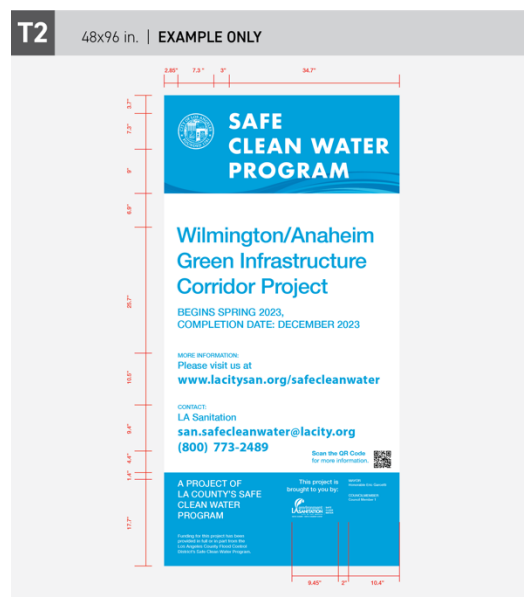


Figure 4

As green infrastructure corridor projects are located in the public right-of-way, be sure to select location(s) where visitors and residents may safely access and easily read the sign(s).

#### 4.1.5 Scheduling, Installation, and Maintenance

Construction information signage should be installed 30 days before the start of the project's construction unless otherwise agreed upon by the project manager and contractor. Construction signage should be removed within 30 days of a project's completion.

The contractor shall follow the guidelines provided by the project manager to produce, install, and maintain project signage,

including project alert and project update signs.

A hotline phone number must be included on signs for projects that will require night work, weekend work, or work that will disrupt the normal daily activity of the residents in the project area for more than one week.

Project alert signs and project update signs must be placed at least one week before the alert or update occurrence.

A temporary construction alert sign is shown below in Figure 5.



Figure 5

All signs must conform to ADA requirements. For standards, refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 24.

The sign type and installation method chosen should be used consistently throughout the project site and the life of the construction of the project.

Consider the character of the project site or adjacent architecture when selecting an installation method. Local culture, history, and/or architecture may make it appropriate to modify installation details.

The construction contractor shall be responsible for maintaining construction signs. The required maintenance of signage consists of regular inspections for vandalism, including the cleaning and repair

of signs as necessary as well as the replacement of signage that is irreparable.

Project managers should consult with the Department of Public Works, Office of Community Beautification on the appropriate graffiti-repellent coating to apply to signage.

## 4.2 Green Infrastructure Corridor Projects - Permanent Signage

### 4.2.1 Purpose

Permanent project signage is used to inform and educate residents, community members, and project stakeholders about a specific green infrastructure corridor project and its partner agencies. Examples of signs, including designs and photos of existing signs, are provided in Appendices A and B.

A permanent green infrastructure corridor project sign is shown in Figure 6 below.

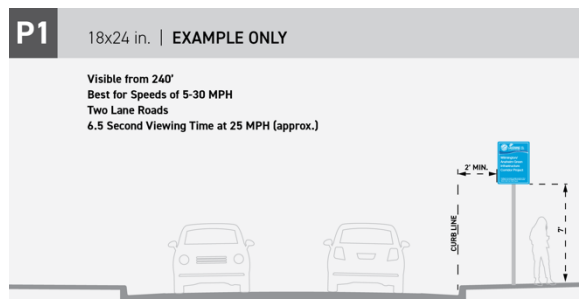


Figure 6

### 4.2.2 Specifications and Manufacturing

The specifications for project signs will be different for every project and should be developed and written on a case by case basis.

Appendix C includes a sample of the specifications that should be developed for the manufacture and installation of project signs and included in project contract documents.

All materials used in the manufacturing and fabrication of a project's signs shall be durable and resistant to the elements and graffiti.

Project managers should consult with the Department of Public Works, Office of Community Beautification on the appropriate graffiti-repellent coating to apply to all project signage.

### 4.2.3 Sign Cost

The cost of the sign(s) is an eligible project cost. Cost of signs will vary with each project and sign type. A typical street sign (18-inch by 24-inch, aluminum plate) may cost \$500-\$1,000 to manufacture.

### 4.2.4 Local Character and Architecture

Consider the character of existing site architecture when selecting a design for permanent signs. Local culture, history, and/or architecture may make it appropriate to modify or incorporate specific elements into design details.

### 4.2.5 Location and Placement

Green infrastructure corridor projects pose unique challenges to permanent signage as the project elements are typically located within a public right-of-way. Green infrastructure corridor projects may not allow for traditional permanent signage.

The City project manager and contractor shall determine the number and location of permanent sign(s). Suggested locations could be each of the entrance points of the green infrastructure corridor and the placement of smaller 18-inch by 24-inch (size for example only) aluminum signs on existing steel posts. The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) should be consulted, and guidelines followed in the installation of permanent street signs.

A permanent green infrastructure corridor project sign is shown below.

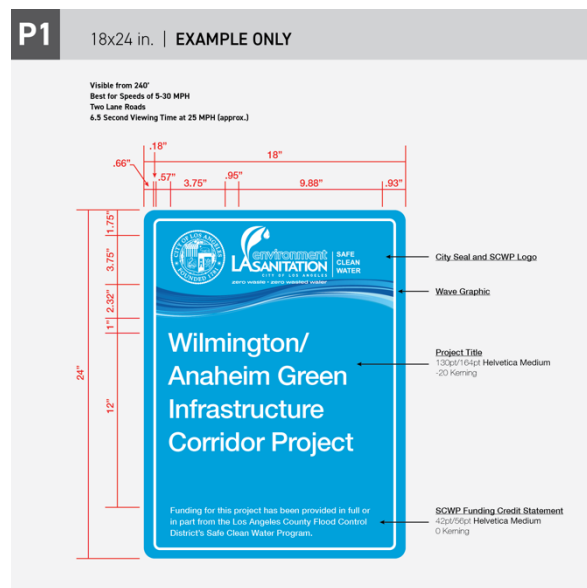


Figure 7

As green infrastructure corridor projects are located in the public right-of-way, be sure to select location(s) where visitors and residents may safely access and easily read the sign(s).

#### 4.2.6 Scheduling, Installation, and Maintenance

Permanent signage shall be installed before the completion of the project. If the project requires permanent/monument signage as defined in the project scope of work, then the contractor shall be responsible for production and installation.

All signs must conform to ADA requirements. For standards, refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 24.

All signs must conform to LADOT requirements and regulations.

The sign type and installation method chosen shall be used consistently throughout the project site and the life of the project.

The character of existing area architecture shall be considered when selecting an installation method. Local culture, history, and/or architecture may make it appropriate to modify installation details.

LASAN shall partner with LADOT, LADWP and Streets LA to identify projects and develop plans for the required maintenance of permanent project signage located in the public right-of-way. The required maintenance of signage consists of regular inspections for vandalism, including the cleaning and repair of signs as necessary, as well as the replacement of interpretive signage that are irreparable.

Project managers should consult with the LADOT / Streets LA on municipal rules, regulations and permits surrounding the placement of signs in the public right-of-way.

### 4.3 Green Infrastructure Corridor Projects - Interpretive Signage

#### 4.3.1 Purpose

Interpretive project signage is used to inform and educate residents and visitors about a specific project, its multiple benefits, surrounding watershed, characteristics, and its partner agencies. Interpretive signage also offers the opportunity to educate residents about specific good housekeeping practices that residents can adopt at home to keep those pollutants of concern out of the watershed's creeks and rivers.

Appendices A and B include examples and photos of existing interpretive signage.

### 4.3.2 Specifications and Manufacturing

The specifications for project signs will be different for every project and should be developed and written on a case by case basis.

Appendix C includes a sample of the specifications that should be developed for the manufacture and installation of project signs and included in project contract documents.

All materials used in the manufacturing and fabrication of a project's signs shall be durable and resistant to the elements and graffiti.

Project managers should consult with the Department of Public Works, Office of Community Beautification on the appropriate graffiti-repellent coating to apply to all project signage.

### 4.3.3 Sign Cost

The cost of the sign(s) is an eligible project cost. Cost of signs will vary with each project and sign type. A typical interpretive sign (2 foot by 3 foot) may cost \$1,000-\$5,000 to manufacture, while large or complex signs (i.e., specialty high-end products, kiosk) may exceed \$20,000.

### 4.3.4 Local Character and Architecture

Consider the character of existing site architecture when selecting a design for the interpretive signage. Local culture, history, and/or architecture may make it appropriate to modify or incorporate specific elements into design details.

### 4.3.5 Location and Placement

The City project manager, site owner/operator, and project contractor will determine the number, location, placement, and content of interpretive signage.

Green infrastructure corridor projects pose unique challenges to interpretive signage as the project elements are typically located within a public right-of-way. Green infrastructure corridor projects may not allow for traditional interpretive signage (e.g. displays and/or kiosks).

The City project manager and contractor will determine the number and location of interpretive sign(s). Suggested locations could be the best management practice elements installed on the green infrastructure corridor (e.g. tree wells and/or parkway bioswales). Small signs affixed to these best management practices could explain the purpose of the best management practice and the community benefits realized. The use of a QR code which sends visitors to a project web page may be considered. The LADOT should be consulted, and guidelines followed in the installation of interpretive street signs.

A small interpretive sign is shown in Figure 8 below.



Figure 8



As green infrastructure corridor projects are located in the public right-of-way, be sure to select location(s) where visitors and residents may safely access and easily read the interpretive sign(s).

#### **4.3.6 Scheduling, Installation, and Maintenance**

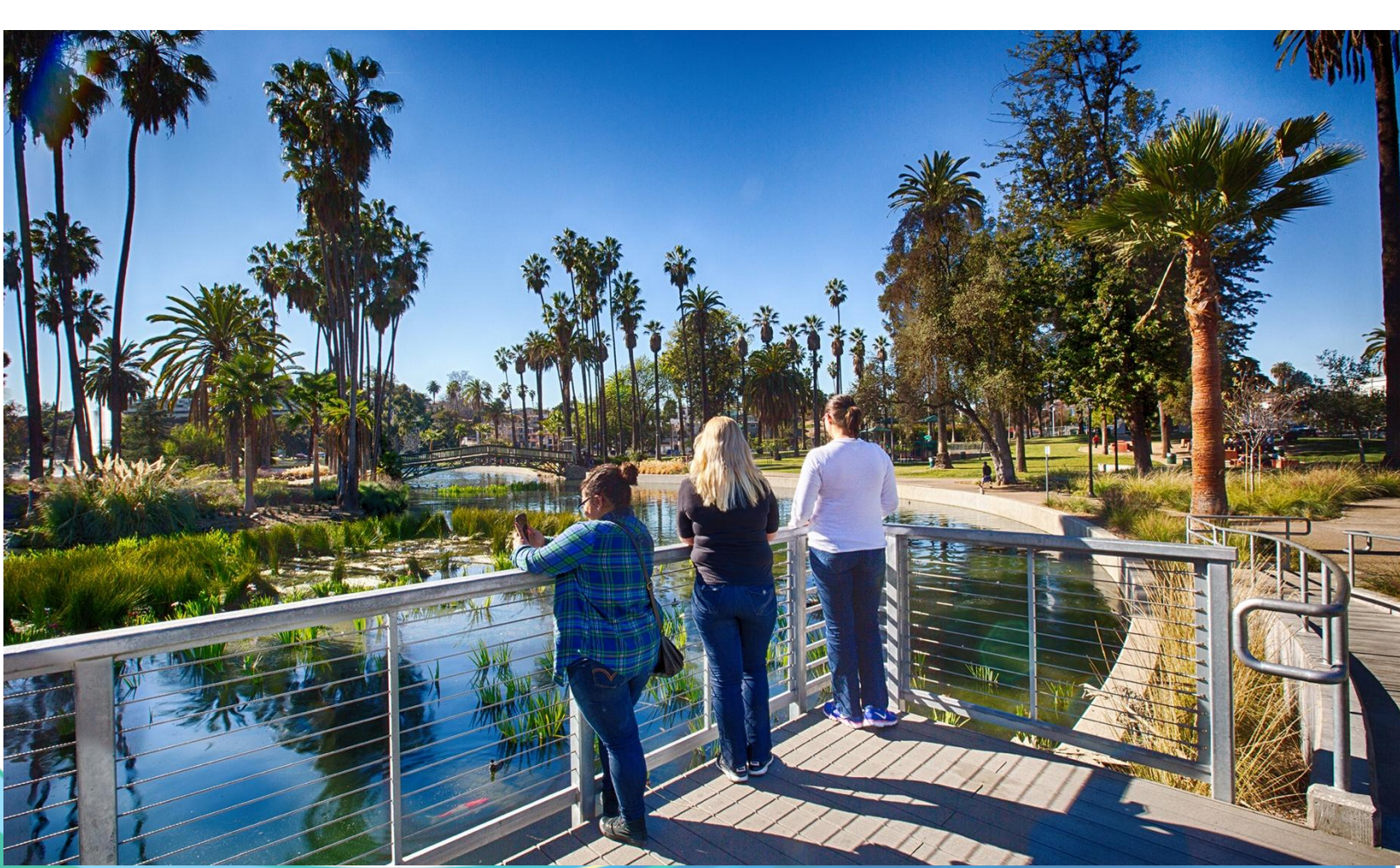
Interpretive signage should be installed before the completion of the project. If the project requires interpretive signage as defined in the project scope of work, then the contractor will be responsible for production and installation.

All signs must conform to ADA requirements. For standards, refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 24. The sign design, type, and installation method chosen should be used consistently throughout the project site and the life of the project.

LASAN shall partner with LADOT, LADWP and Streets LA to identify projects and develop plans for the required maintenance of permanent project signage. The required maintenance of signage consists of regular inspections for vandalism, including the cleaning and repair of signs as necessary, as well as the replacement of signage that is irreparable.

#### **4.4 Project Construction Contract Template Language**

Project managers shall consult with the City Attorney to ensure that the appropriate project signage language referencing the SCWP Project Sign Design Guidelines is included in the project construction contract.



## CHAPTER 5 - SIGNAGE FOR GRAY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

This chapter includes information for SCWP gray infrastructure projects and is organized by signage type: Construction, Permanent/Monument, and Interpretive.

Gray infrastructure projects pose unique challenges to signage as project elements may not be located in the public right-of-way and many elements may be located underground (e.g. low-flow diversion projects). As such, gray infrastructure corridor projects may not allow for traditional site-specific project signage.

### 5.1 Gray Infrastructure Projects - Construction Signage

#### 5.1.1 Purpose

Project construction signage is used to inform and educate residents, community members, and project stakeholders about a specific project, including its benefits, construction schedule, funding source(s), partner agencies and/or organizations, and contact information if questions or concerns arise.

Appendices A and B includes designs and photos of existing signs.

A temporary project identification sign is shown in Figure 8 below.

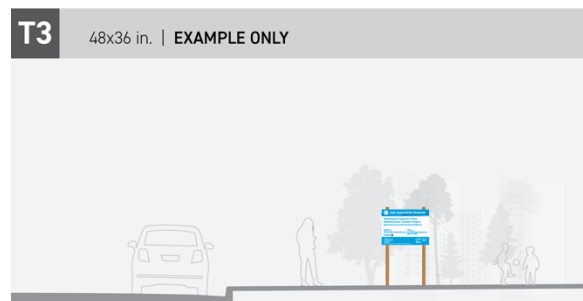


Figure 8

#### 5.1.2 Specifications and Manufacturing

The specifications for project signs will be different for every project and should be developed and written on a case by case basis.

Appendix C includes a sample of the specifications that should be developed for the manufacture and installation of project signs and included in project contract documents.

All materials used in the manufacturing and fabrication of a project's signs shall be durable and resistant to the elements and graffiti.

Project managers should consult with the Department of Public Works, Office of Community Beautification on the appropriate graffiti-repellent coating to apply to all project signage.

#### 5.1.3 Sign Cost

The cost of the sign(s) is an eligible project cost. Cost of signs will vary with each project and sign type. A typical temporary construction sign (4 feet by 8 feet) may cost \$400-\$800 to manufacture.

#### 5.1.4 Location and Placement

The City project manager, site owner/operator, and project contractor will determine the number and location of construction sign(s).

A suggested location could be an existing entrance of the site or a banner on temporary construction fencing, which may surround the project. Banner design elements should be consistent with the branding, color, font(s), and logo(s) standards included herein.



A temporary project identification sign is shown in Figure 9 below.

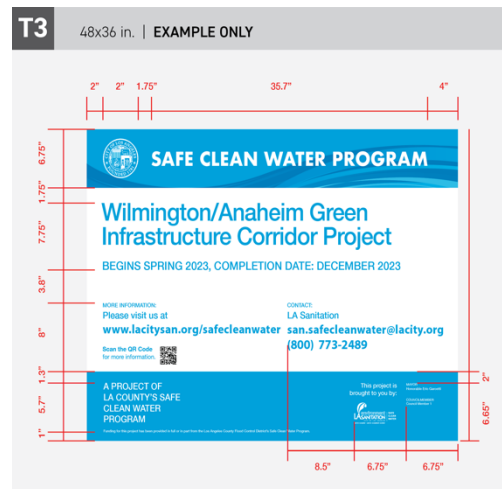


Figure 9

Select a prominent location(s) where visitors and residents may safely access and easily read the sign(s).

To avoid visual clutter, consider grouping multiple signs.

### 5.1.5 Scheduling, Installation, and Maintenance

Construction information signage shall be installed 30 days before the start of the project's construction unless otherwise agreed upon by the project manager and contractor. Construction signage shall be removed within 30 days of a project's completion.

The contractor shall follow the guidelines provided by the project manager to produce, install, and maintain project signage, including project alert and project update signs.

A hotline phone number shall be included on signs for projects that will require night work, weekend work, or work that will disrupt the normal daily activity of the residents in the project area for more than one week.

Project alert signs and project update signs must be placed at least one week before the alert or update occurrence.

A project alert sign is shown in Figure 10 below.



Figure 10

All signs must conform to ADA requirements. For standards, refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 24.

The sign type and installation method chosen shall be used consistently throughout the project site and the life of the construction of the project.

Consider the character of the project site or adjacent architecture when selecting an installation method. Local culture, history and/or architecture may make it appropriate to modify installation details.

The construction contractor of the project site shall be responsible for maintaining construction signs. The required maintenance of signage consists of regular inspections for vandalism, including the cleaning and repair of signs as necessary as well as the replacement of signage that is irreparable.

## 5.2 Gray Infrastructure Projects - Permanent/Monument Signage

### 5.2.1 Purpose

Permanent, or monument-style, project signage is used to inform and educate residents, community members, and project stakeholders about a specific project and its partner agencies.

Project sign designs and photos of existing signs are provided in Appendices A and B.

A permanent project sign is shown in Figure 11 below.

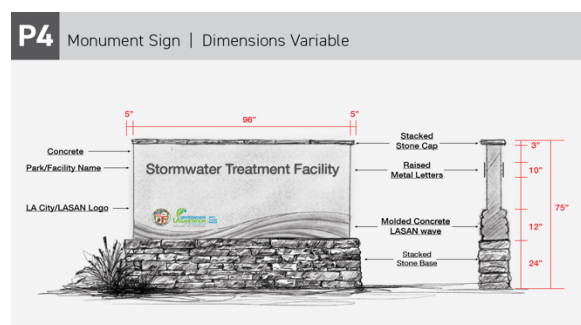


Figure 11

### 5.2.2 Specifications and Manufacturing

The specifications for project signs will be different for every project and should be developed and written on a case by case basis.

Appendix C includes a sample of the specifications that should be developed for the manufacture and installation of project signs and included in project contract documents.

All materials used in the manufacturing and fabrication of a project's signs shall be durable and resistant to the elements and graffiti.

Project managers should consult with the Department of Public Works, Office of Community Beautification on the

appropriate graffiti-repellent coating to apply to all project signage.

### 5.2.3 Sign Cost

The cost of the sign(s) is an eligible project cost. Cost of signs will vary with each project and sign type. Large signs (i.e., permanent or monument-style) may exceed \$20,000.

### 5.2.4 Local Character and Architecture

Consider the character of existing site architecture when selecting a design for the permanent/monument sign. Local culture, history, and/or architecture may make it appropriate to modify or incorporate specific elements into design details.

### 5.2.5 Location and Placement

The City project manager, site owner/operator, and project contractor will determine the number and location of permanent/monument sign(s).

A suggested location could be an existing entrance to the site or adjacent to a pedestrian walkway through or around the project site.

Select a prominent location(s) where visitors and residents may safely access and easily read the sign(s).

To avoid visual clutter, consider grouping multiple signs together.

### 5.2.6 Scheduling, Installation, and Maintenance

Permanent/monument signage shall be installed before the completion of the project. If the project requires permanent signage as defined in the project scope of work, then the contractor will be responsible for production and installation.



All signs must conform to ADA requirements. For standards, refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 24.

The sign type and installation method chosen shall be used consistently throughout the project site and the life of the project.

Consider the character of existing site architecture when selecting an installation method. Local culture, history, and/or architecture may make it appropriate to modify installation details.

LASAN shall partner with LADOT, LADWP and Streets LA to identify projects and develop plans for the required maintenance of permanent project signage. The required maintenance of signage consists of regular inspections for vandalism, including the cleaning and repair of signs as necessary, as well as the replacement of signage that is irreparable.

### **5.3 Gray Infrastructure Projects - Interpretive Signage**

#### **5.3.1 Purpose**

Interpretive project signage, which can include displays and/or kiosks, is used to inform and educate residents and visitors about a specific project, its multiple benefits, surrounding watershed, characteristics, and its partner agencies. Interpretive signage offers the opportunity to educate residents about pollutants of concern found in the watershed, and the best management practices employed by the project to improve water quality and/or capture stormwater and urban runoff.

Additionally, interpretive signage can educate residents about specific good housekeeping practices that they can adopt at home to keep pollutants of concern out of the watershed's creeks and rivers.

Signs, including designs and photos of existing signs, are provided in Appendices A and B.

#### **5.3.2 Specifications and Manufacturing**

The specifications for project signs will be different for every project and should be developed and written on a case by case basis.

Appendix C includes a sample of the specifications that should be developed for the manufacture and installation of project signs and included in project contract documents.

All materials used in the manufacturing and fabrication of a project's signs shall be durable and resistant to the elements and graffiti.

Project managers should consult with the Department of Public Works, Office of Community Beautification on the appropriate graffiti-repellent coating to apply to all project signage.

#### **5.3.3 Sign Cost**

The cost of the sign(s) is an eligible project cost. Cost of signs will vary with each project and sign type. A typical interpretive sign (2 foot by 3 foot) may cost \$1,000-\$5,000 to manufacture, while large or complex signs (i.e., specialty high-end products, kiosk) may exceed \$20,000.

#### **5.3.4 Local Character and Architecture**

Consider the character of existing site architecture when selecting a design for the interpretive signage. Local culture, history, and/or architecture may make it appropriate to modify or incorporate specific elements into design details.

### 5.3.5 Location and Placement

The City project manager, site owner/operator, and project contractor will determine the number, location, placement, and content of interpretive signage.

Interpretive signs and displays are typically installed as displays or kiosks alongside pedestrian walkways or adjacent to scenic lookout points and/or seating areas. The physical locations of gray infrastructure projects may not lend themselves to the siting of interpretive signage that is easily accessible by visitors and residents. Project managers and contractors may consider alternative adjacent locations that are easily and safely accessible when planning for educational interpretive signage for gray infrastructure projects.

To avoid visual clutter, consider grouping multiple signs together.

An interpretive sign is shown in Figure 12 below.

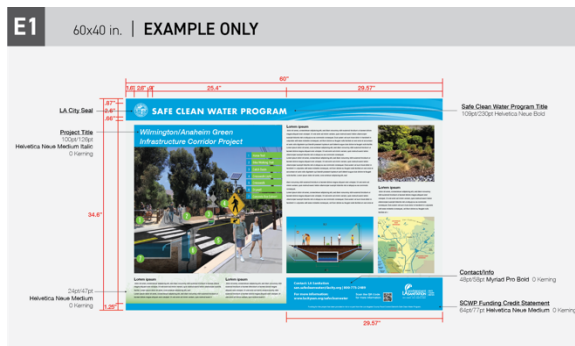


Figure 12

### 5.3.6 Scheduling, Installation, and Maintenance

Interpretive signage shall be installed before the completion of the project. If the project requires interpretive signage as defined in the project scope of work, then the contractor will be responsible for production and installation.

All signs must conform to ADA requirements. For standards, refer to California Code of Regulations, Title 24.

The sign design, type, and installation method chosen shall be used consistently throughout the project site and the life of the project.

LASAN shall partner with LADOT, LADWP and Streets LA to identify projects and develop plans for the required maintenance of permanent project signage. The required maintenance of signage consists of regular inspections for vandalism, including the cleaning and repair of signs as necessary, as well as the replacement of signage that is irreparable.

### 5.4 Project Construction Contract Template Language

Project managers shall consult with the City Attorney to ensure that the appropriate project signage language referencing the SCWP Project Sign Design Guidelines is included in the project construction contracts.

## APPENDICES

Appendix A – Project Sign Designs

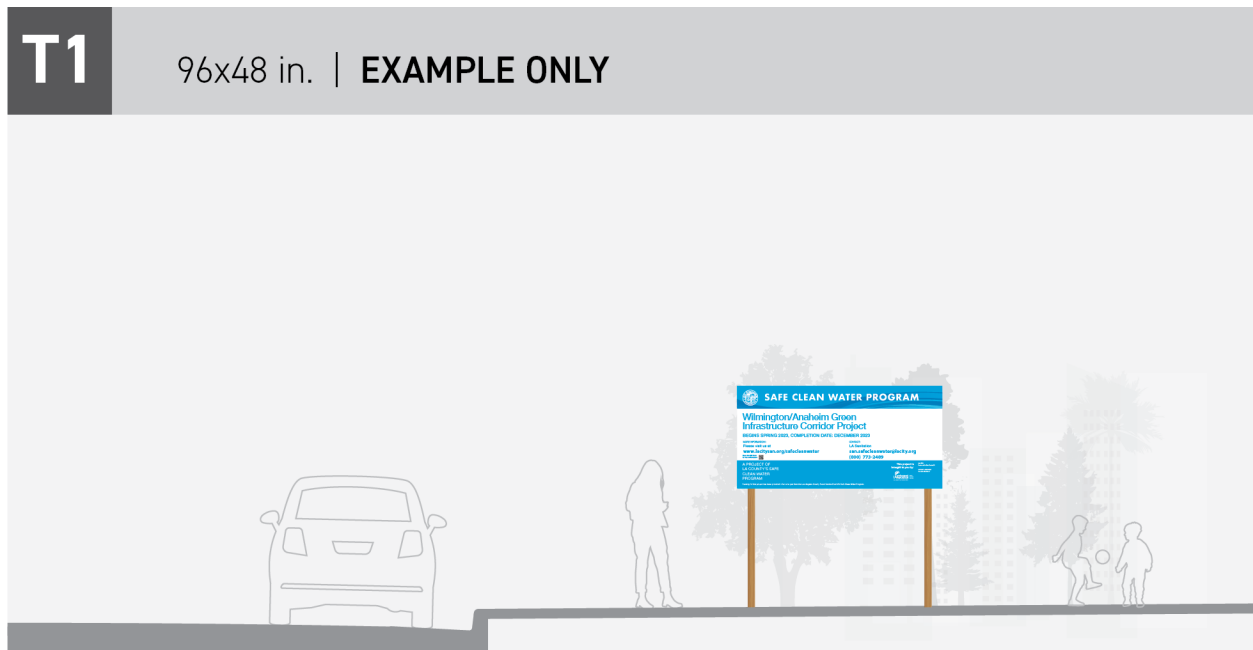
Appendix B – Existing Project Signs

Appendix C – Specifications for the Manufacture and Installation of Signs

## APPENDIX A

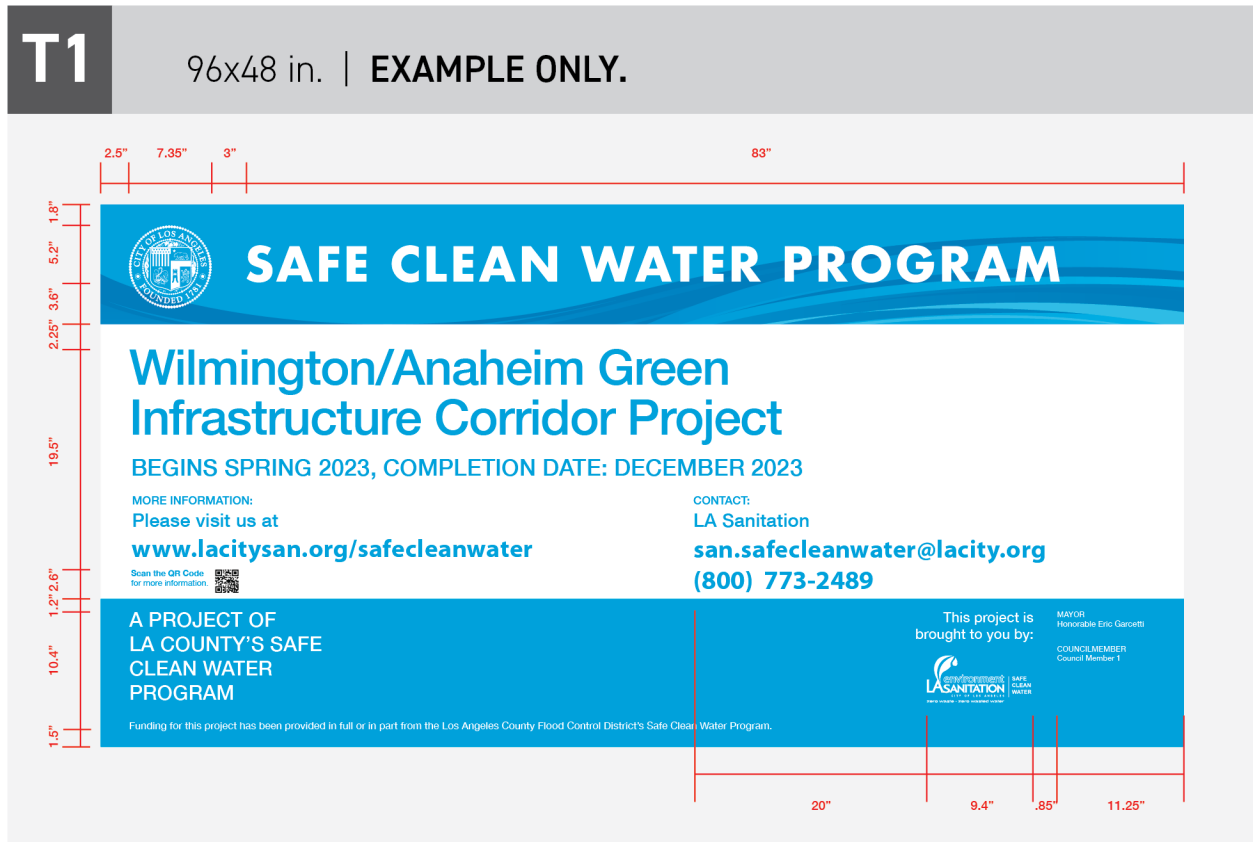
### PROJECT SIGN DESIGNS

Figure A-1 – Temporary Project Identification Sign



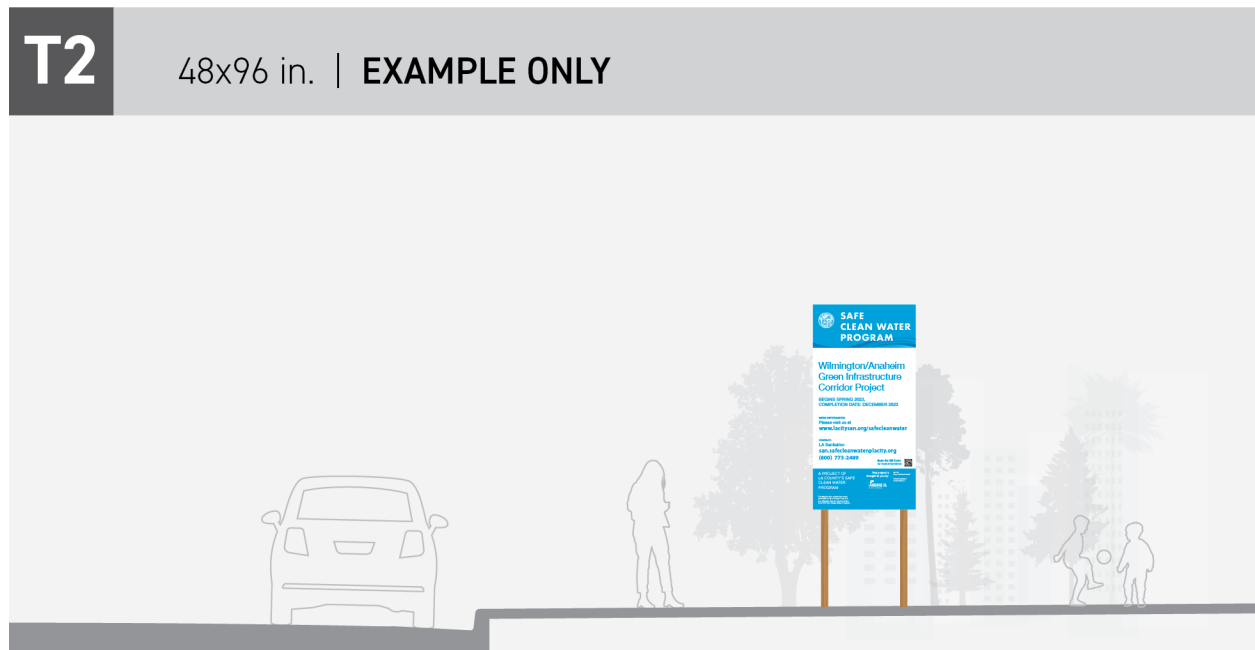
## APPENDIX A

Figure A-2 – Temporary Project Identification Sign



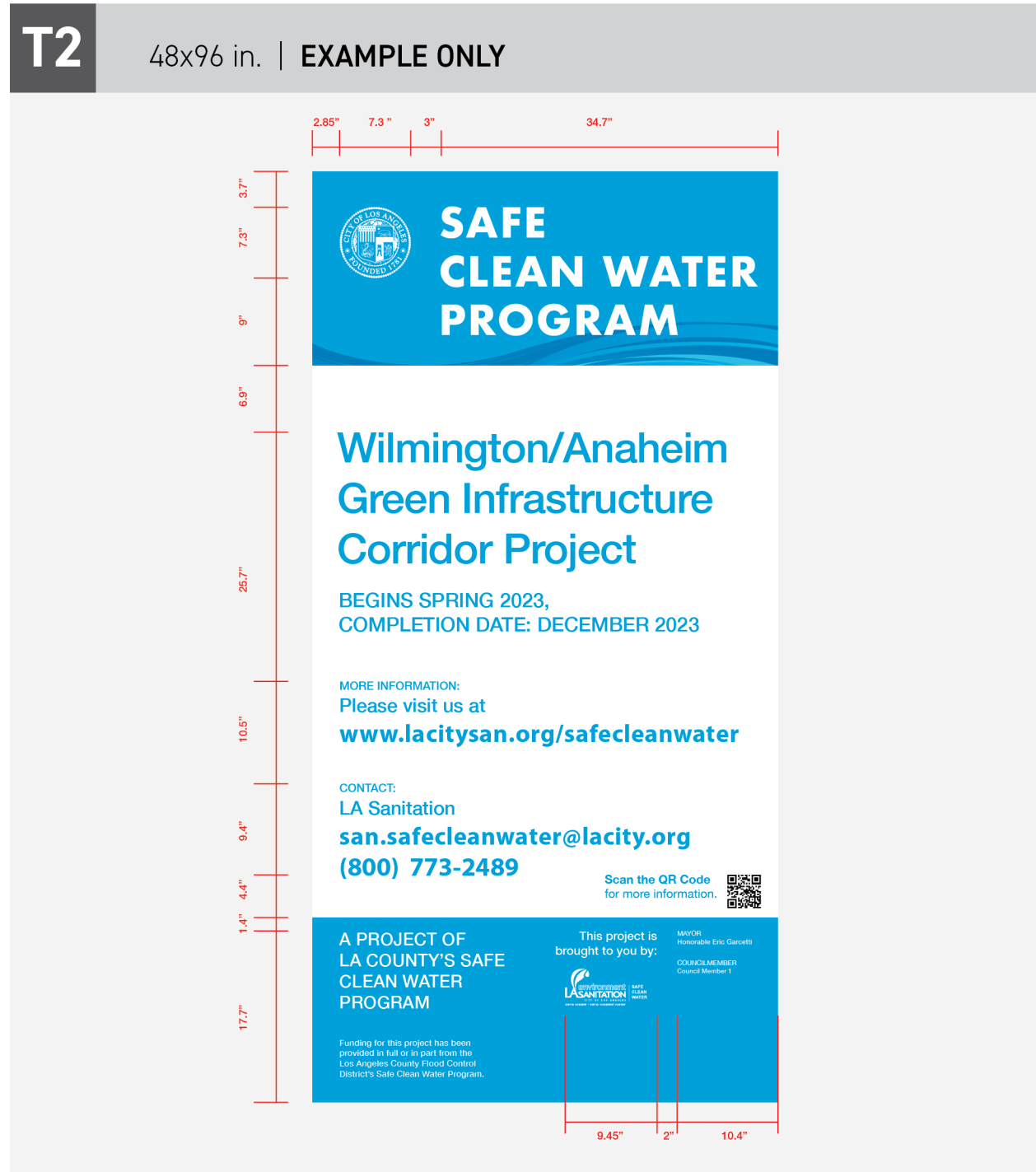
## APPENDIX A

### Figure A-3 – Temporary Project Identification Sign (Site Profile)



## APPENDIX A

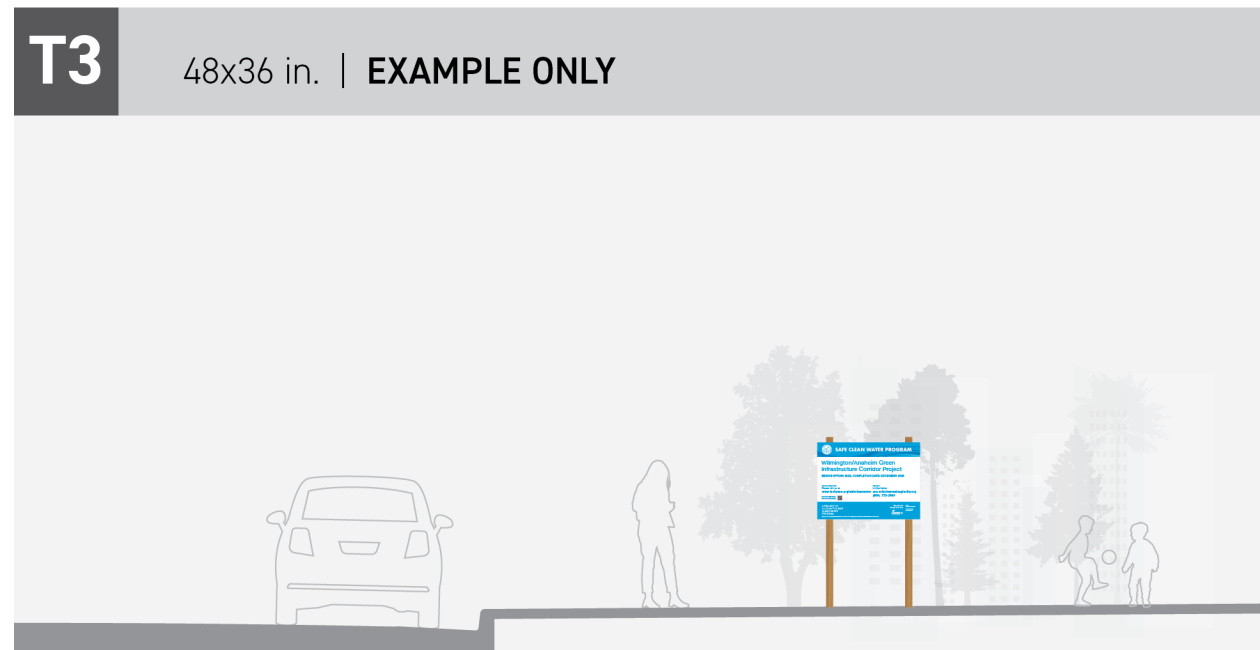
Figure A-4 – Temporary Project Identification Sign





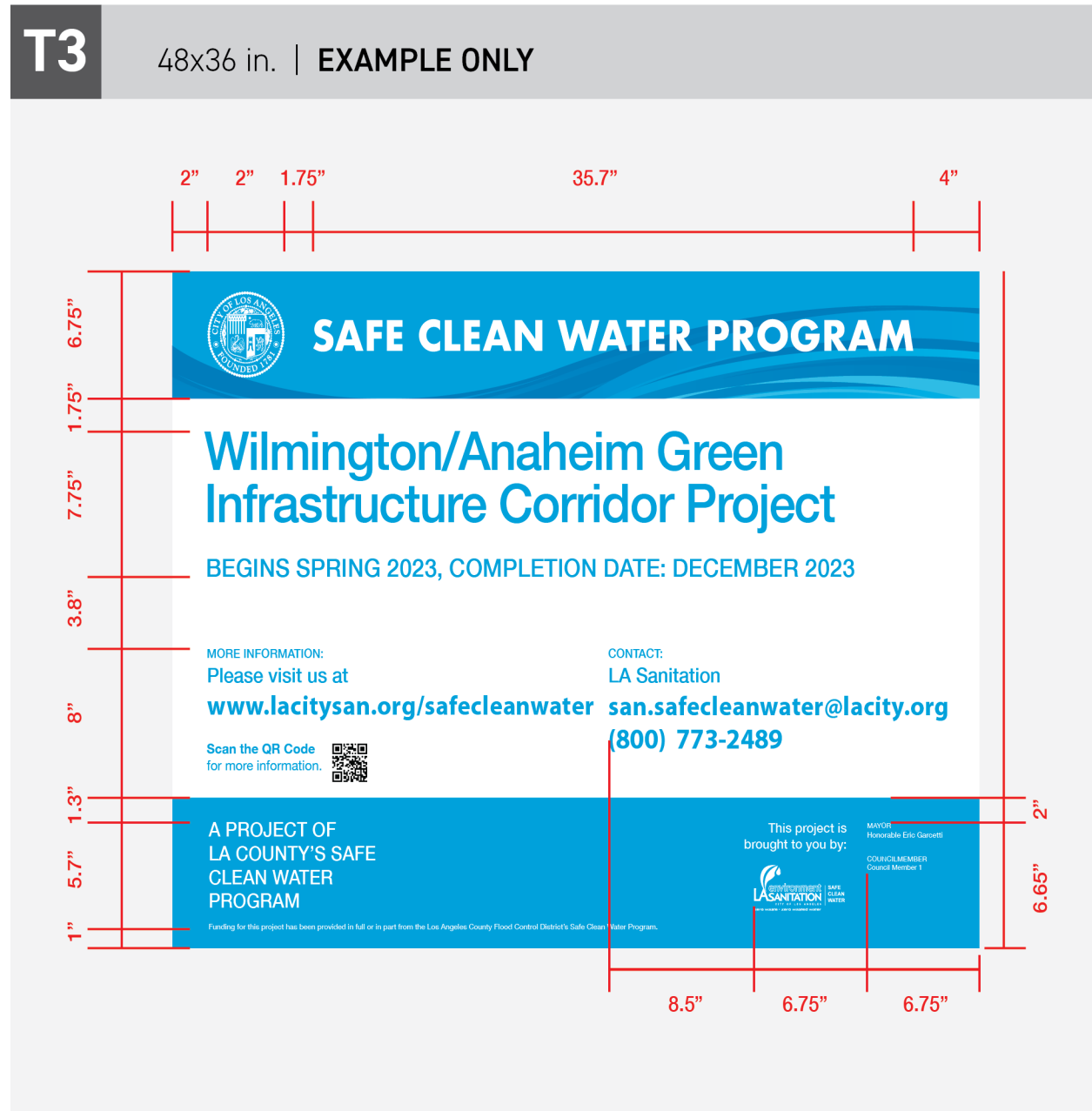
## APPENDIX A

Figure A-5 – Temporary Project Identification Sign (Site Profile)



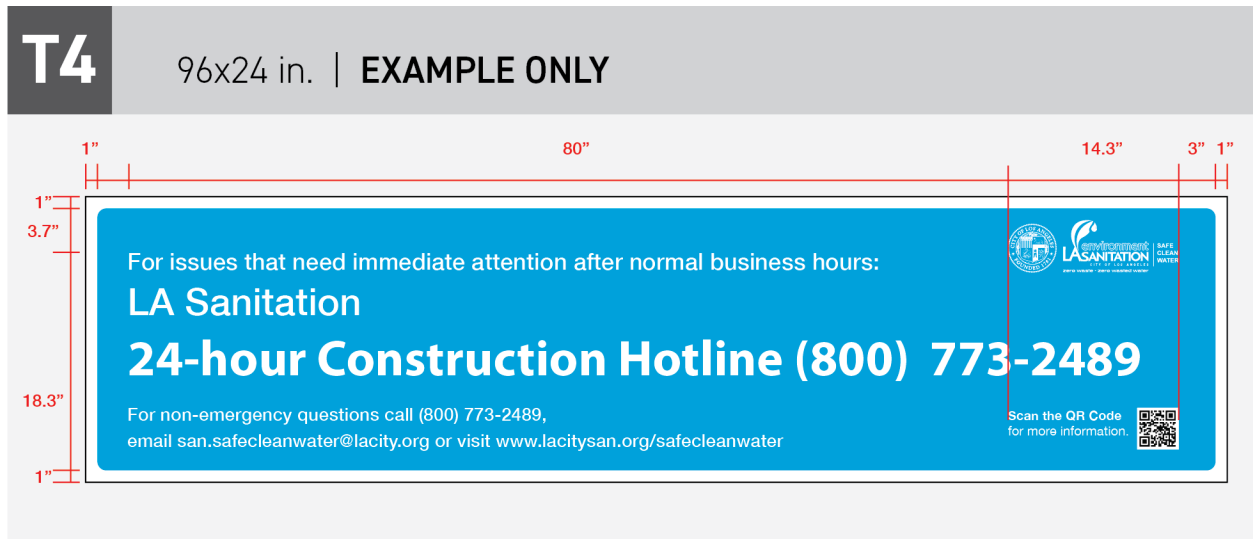
## APPENDIX A

Figure A-6 – Temporary Project Identification Sign



## APPENDIX A

Figure A-7 – Temporary Project Hotline Banner



## APPENDIX A

Figure A-8 – Temporary Project Alert Sandwich Board Sign



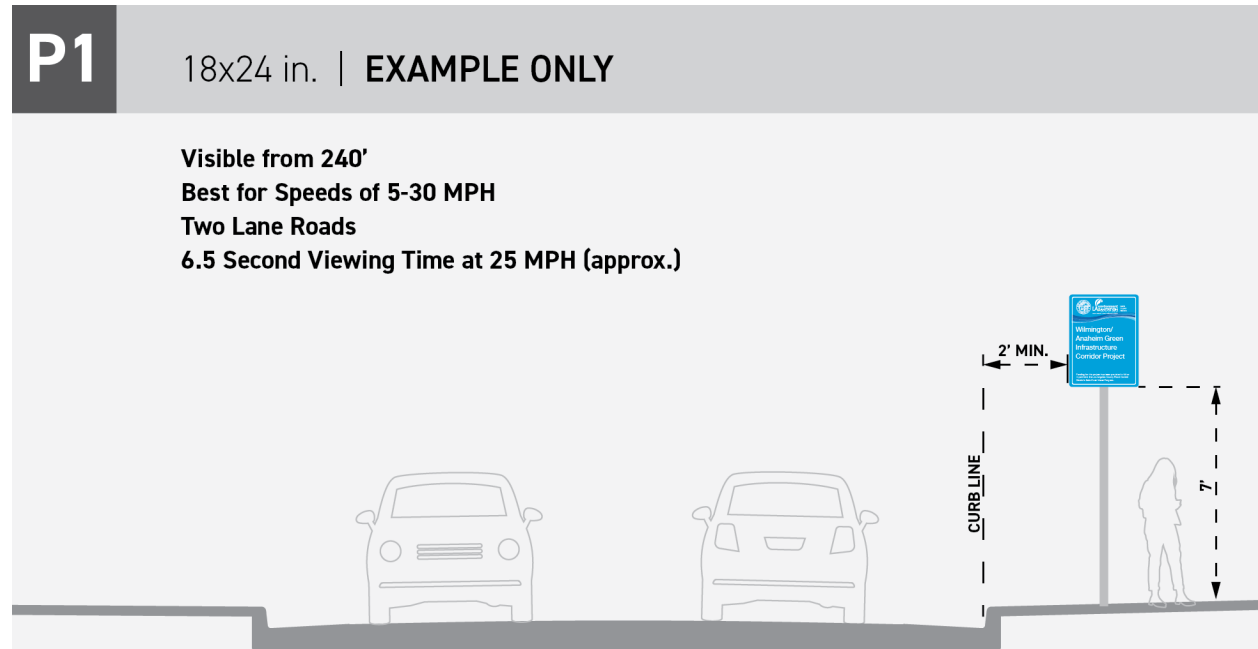
## APPENDIX A

Figure A-9 – Temporary Project Alert Banner



## APPENDIX A

Figure A-10 – Permanent Green Corridor Sign (Site Profile)



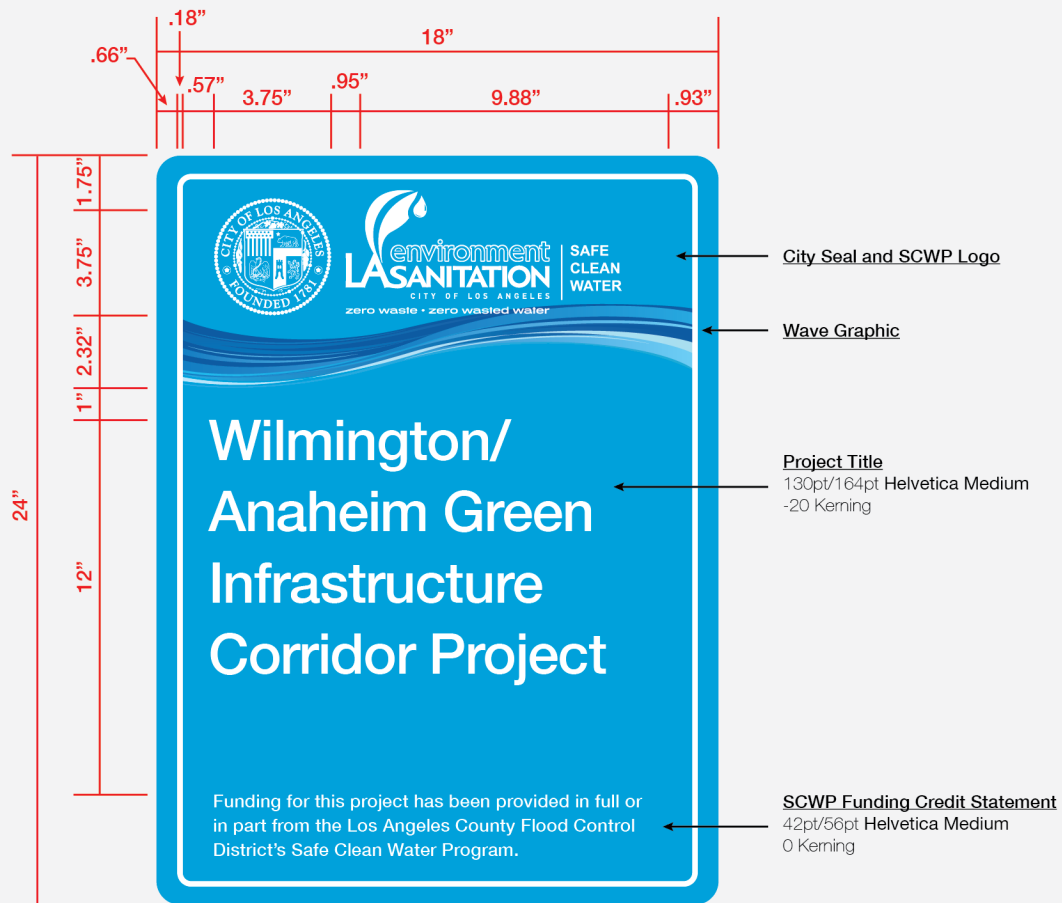
## APPENDIX A

Figure A-11 – Permanent Green Corridor Sign

**P1**

18x24 in. | **EXAMPLE ONLY**

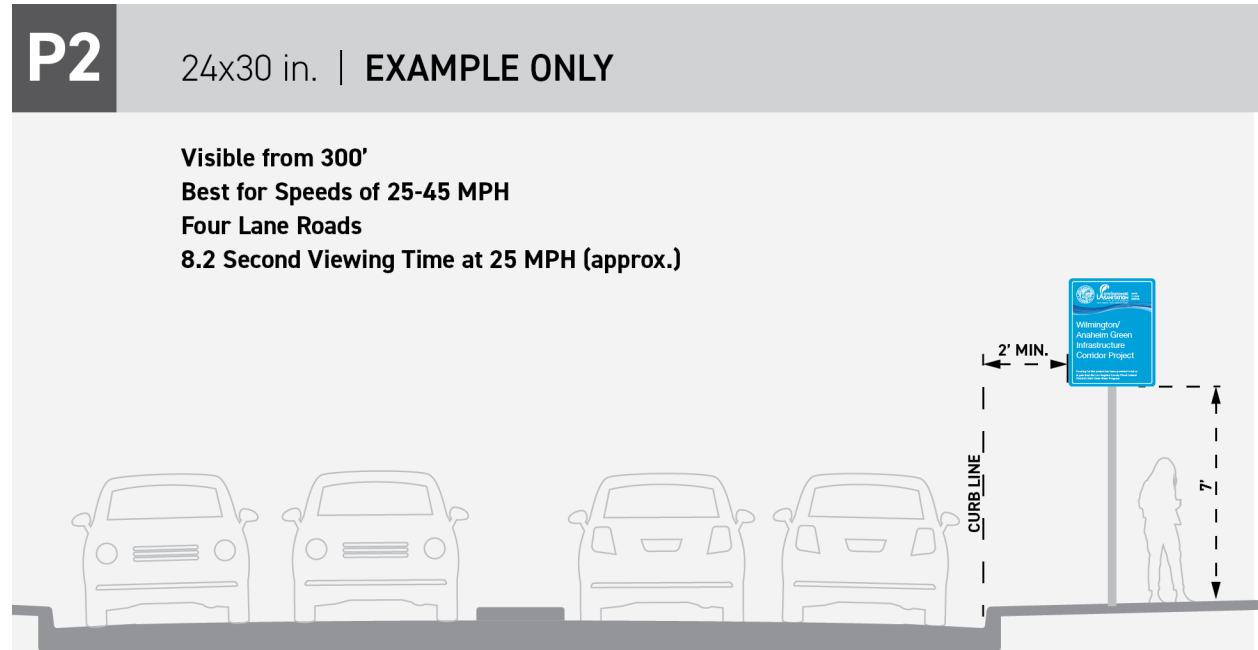
Visible from 240'  
Best for Speeds of 5-30 MPH  
Two Lane Roads  
6.5 Second Viewing Time at 25 MPH (approx.)





## APPENDIX A

Figure A-12 – Permanent Green Corridor Sign (Site Profile)



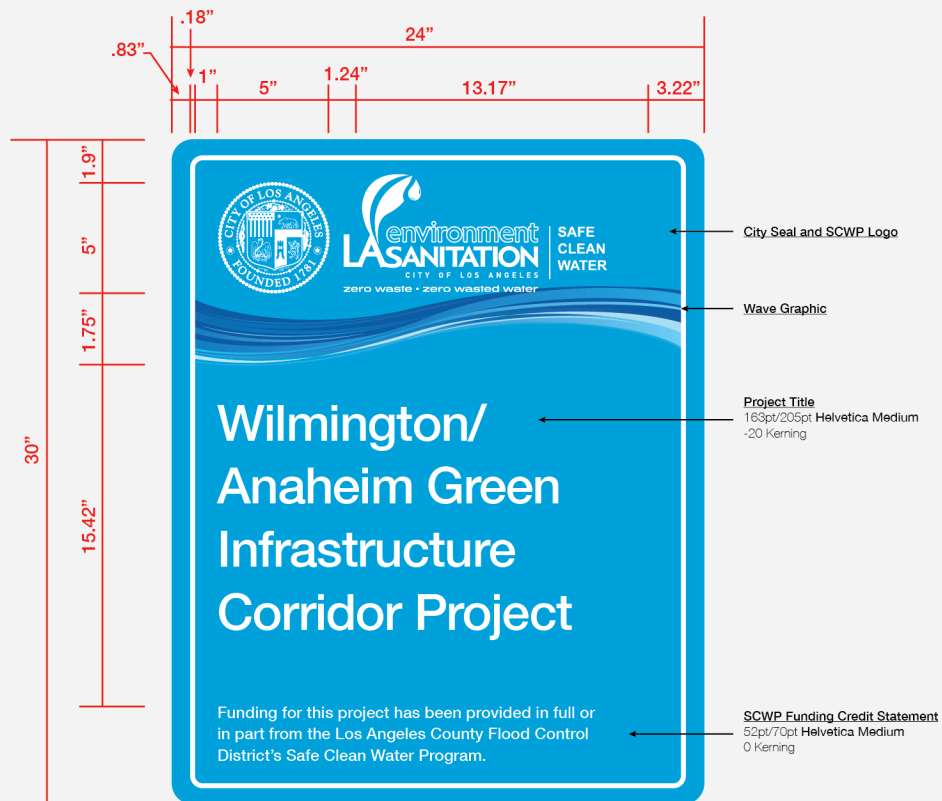
## APPENDIX A

Figure A-13 – Permanent Green Corridor Sign

**P2**

24x30 in. | **EXAMPLE ONLY**

Visible from 300'  
Best for Speeds of 25-45 MPH  
Four Lane Roads  
8.2 Second Viewing Time at 25 MPH (approx.)



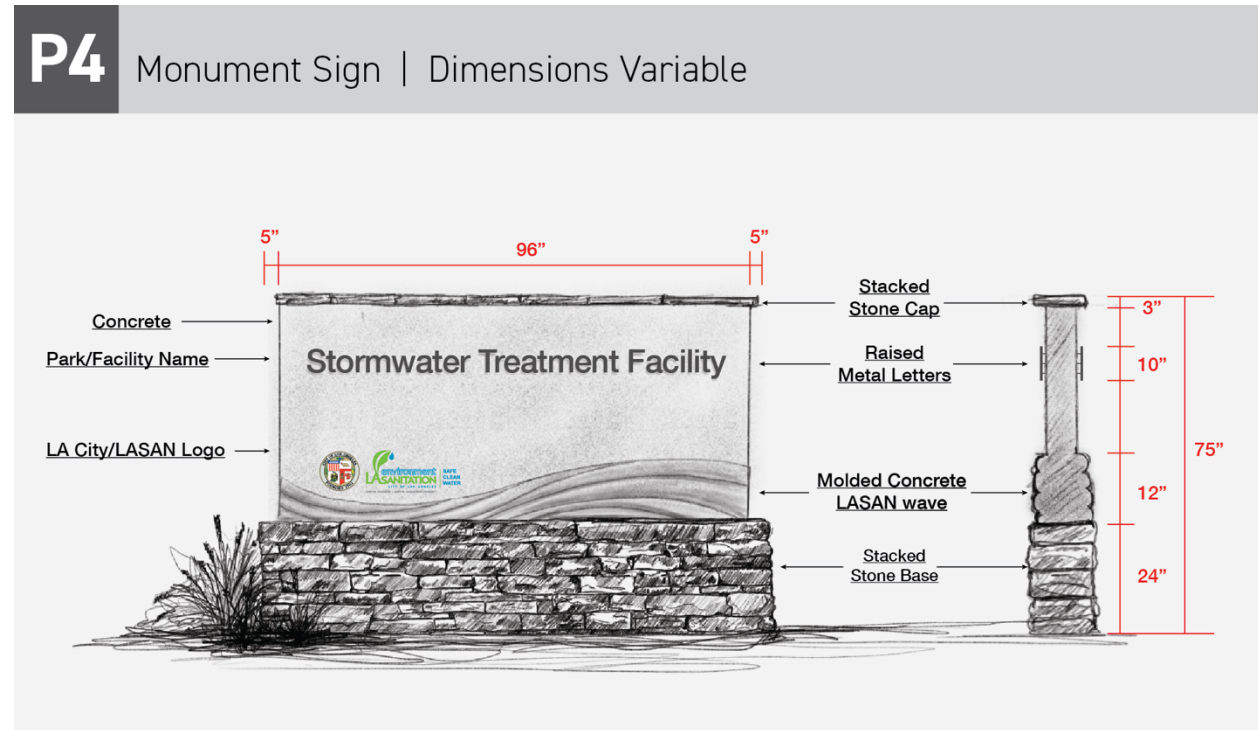
## APPENDIX A

Figure A-14 – Permanent Park Gateway Sign



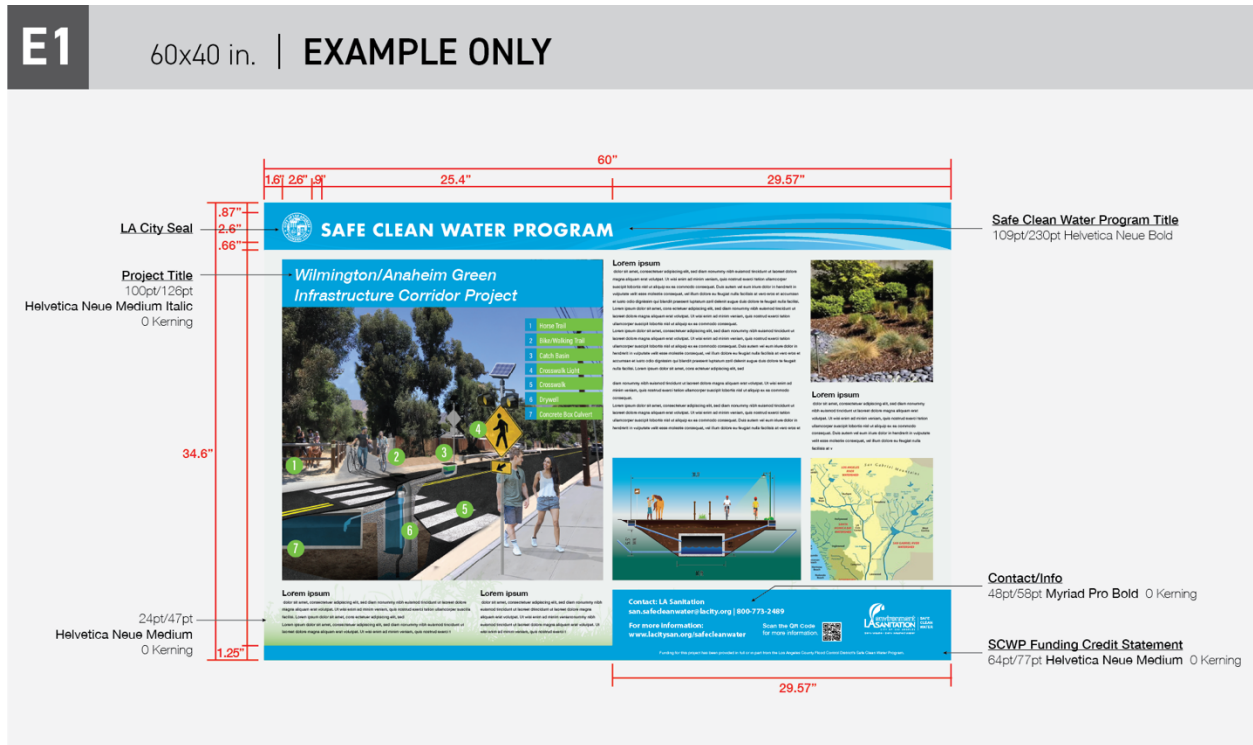
## APPENDIX A

Figure A-15 – Permanent Monument Sign



# APPENDIX A

Figure A-16 – Permanent Educational/Interpretive Sign



## APPENDIX B

### EXAMPLES OF EXISTING PROJECT SIGNS

*Note: The examples included in Appendix B do not follow the SCWP Project Sign Design Guidelines. They are included to show the different types of project signs that are possible and which may be considered for projects.*

**Figure B-1 – Construction Banner (Sewer Rehabilitation)**





## APPENDIX B

Figure B-2 – Construction Sign (Elmer Paseo)



### Figure B-3 – Construction Sign (Alley Improvements)

# ALLEY IMPROVEMENTS IN PROGRESS MEJORAS DE CALLEJÓN EN CURSO

ANTICIPATED  
OPENING/APERTURA  
ANTICIPADA:

**SPRING  
2016**

FOR MORE INFORMATION / PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN:  
Natalia Gaerlan, The Trust for Public Land  
natalia.gaerlan@tpl.org | 323-223-0441 ext. 12

**COUNCILMAN CURREN PRICE, LA SANITATION, AND THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND  
THANK OUR GENEROUS PARTNERS AND DONORS, INCLUDING:**

**COUNCILMAN CURREN PRICE, LA SANITATION Y THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND  
AGRADECEN A NUESTROS GENEROSOS COLABORADORES Y DONADORES:**

Proposition 84 Stormwater Grant Program; City of Los Angeles Sanitation; State Coastal Conservancy Climate Ready Grant; California Natural Resources Agency Prop 84 Urban Greening Project Grant; Avalon Green Alley Green Team; Breen Engineering, Inc.; Cal Poly Pomona, Coalition for Responsible Community Development; Council for Watershed Health; County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation - Regional Park & Open Space District; Dr. Maya Angelou Community High School; Jefferson High School; LA Conservation Corps; Los Angeles Police Department; Main Street Elementary School; TreePeople; and SALT Landscape Architects.

**ADDITIONAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY / APOYO ADICIONAL PROPORCIONADO POR:**

The Aileen Getty Foundation; The JB Fund Community Building Initiative; Kaiser Permanente; Wells Fargo; National Fish and Wildlife Foundation; LA2050, an initiative of the Goldhirsh Foundation; The Boeing Company; The Cygnus Foundation; Union Bank Foundation; among others.

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Water Boards**

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**THE TRUST  
FOR PUBLIC  
LAND**

**Coastal  
Sanctuary**

Funding for this project has been provided in full or in part through an agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board. Este proyecto ha sido financiado por su totalidad o en parte, a través de un acuerdo con la Junta Estatal de Recursos Hídricos. El contenido de este documento no refleja necesariamente los puntos de vista o opiniones políticas de la Junta.

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## APPENDIX B

Figure B-4 – Interpretive Sign (Argo Drain, Grouping of Two Signs)



## APPENDIX B

Figure B-5 – Interpretive Sign (Argo Drain, English/Spanish)





## APPENDIX B

Figure B-6 – Interpretive Sign (Argo Drain, English/Spanish)



## APPENDIX B

Figure B-7 – Interpretive Sign (LA River, English/Spanish)





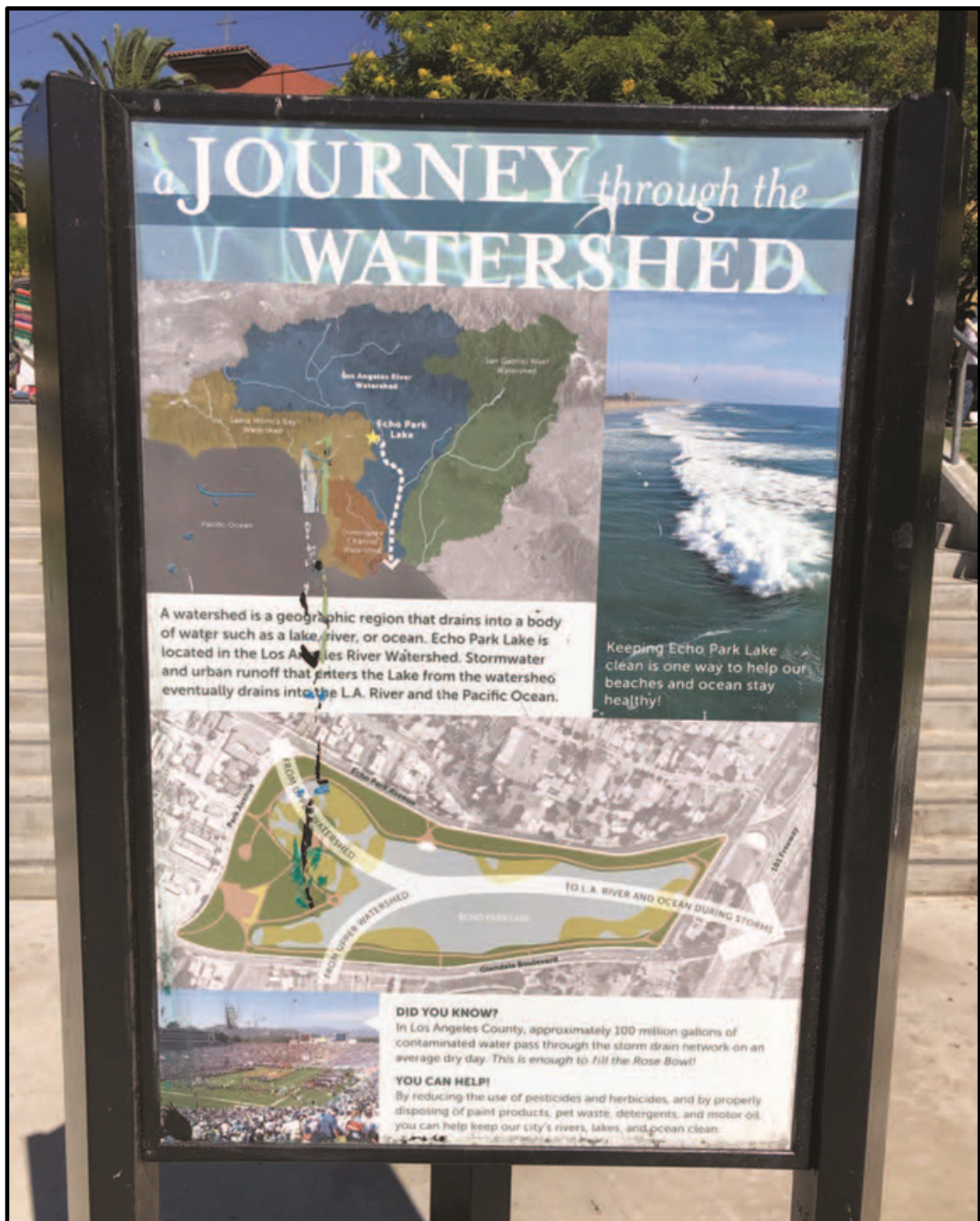
## APPENDIX B

Figure B-8 – Interpretive Sign (Echo Park Lake)



## APPENDIX B

Figure B-9 – Interpretive Sign (Echo Park Lake)



## APPENDIX C

### SAMPLE SPECIFICATIONS for the MANUFACTURE and INSTALLATION of SIGNS

*Note: The specifications are sample specifications only. These sample specifications demonstrate the scope and detail of the specifications which will need to be included in all contract documents for Safe Clean Water Program-funded projects.*

#### SAMPLE SPECIFICATIONS

#### PROJECT INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE

#### PART 1 - GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

##### 1.1 DOCUMENTS

These specifications form part of the Contract Documents and are to be read, interpreted, and coordinated with all other parts of the document.

##### 1.2 SCOPE

These specifications apply only to the manufacture and supply of signs and graphic images in porcelain enamel on steel.

##### 1.3 DEFINITIONS

###### 1.3.1 PORCELAIN ENAMEL

Porcelain enamel on steel is a substantially vitreous (glassy) inorganic coating bonded to metal by fusion at temperatures above 1400° Fahrenheit. Porcelain enamel is not to be confused with baked paints or organic enamels.

###### 1.3.2 STEEL

For purposes of this specification, “steel” is special purpose enameling iron or steel as defined by ASTM A424 Type 1. The standard thickness for most applications is

16 gauge (.060”). If required, the steel can be as thick as 14 gauge (.075”), and as thin as 18 gauge (.048”). Please note that porcelain enamel edge “burnoff” can occur on steel lighter than 16 gauge.

###### 1.3.3 FRITS/GLAZES/OXIDES

Specially formulated porcelain enamel frits, glazes and oxides as supplied by Ferro, Chivit, APEC, Pemco, and Degussa. These materials when combined and processed in final form shall have no less than a Class A acid resistance rating as defined by ASTM C282 Citric Acid Spot Test.

###### 1.3.4 ART

The graphic material and images as supplied by or directed under the supervision of the customer on this project. This includes electronic files, mechanicals, text, photographs, transparencies, film, and other graphic source materials.

###### 1.3.5 APPROVALS

Approvals shall be obtained at each stage of production and are the responsibility of the customer as submitted by the supplier. Work shall not proceed without the proper written authorizations.

###### 1.3.6 FASTENERS

Stainless steel or cadmium plated steel.



### 1.3.7 LAMINATES

Laminate material shall be bonded to the back surface of the porcelain enamel sign panel to meet structural and flatness criteria.

### 1.3.8 ADHESIVES

Adhesives used to bond laminates shall be neoprene-based cement. Adhesive shall be water resistant and heat resistant up to 100 degrees C.

## 1.4 REFERENCE STANDARDS

### 1.4.1 PORCELAIN ENAMEL INSTITUTE

“Specification for Architectural Porcelain Enamel on Steel PEI S-100 (65)”, by the Porcelain Enamel Institute, Arlington, VA, USA.

### 1.4.2 VITREOUS ENAMEL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

“Vitranamel Quality Standards for Signs”, by the Vitreous Enamel Development Council, London, England.

## PART 2 - GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be provided by the supplier and approved by the customer before fabrication.

### 2.1 REFERENCES

Supplier shall provide references for as many as 10 clients who have used their services to the satisfaction of the customer.

### 2.2 RELATED WORK

Related work shall be carried out by a qualified contractor as approved by the customer.

## 2.3 INSTALLATION

Installation shall be performed in a workmanlike fashion consistent with porcelain enamel requirements. Porcelain enamel company shall provide instructions if installation is to be performed by customer or others. Installer to supply all equipment and materials necessary for proper installation, as detailed by supplier. See Figure 1 for additional details.

## 2.4 PRODUCTS

### 2.4.2 PORCELAIN ENAMEL PANELS

Supplier to provide porcelain enamel interpretive sign panels meeting requirements in Part 4 of this Section.

### 2.4.3 EXTRUDED ALUMINUM SIGN BASE

Supplier to provide pre-fabricated extruded aluminum bases to hold single porcelain enamel panels as indicated on drawings.

A. Sign base to be designed and constructed to National Park Service (NPS) standards.

B. Sign base to be equivalent to the following:

1. Manufacturer: KVO Industries.
2. Model: 3624 NPS DUPR.
3. Finish: Semi-gloss.
4. Color: Cardinal T241-BK59.
5. Application: Powder Coat.

## 2.5 QUALIFICATIONS

Suppliers of materials and services shall have five years of previous experience with projects of this scope.

## **2.6 SUBMITTALS AND SAMPLES**

Upon the customer's request, the supplier must supply samples and colors relevant to the project.

A. Porcelain Enamel – 4 inches by 4 inches sample of each spot color and full color proofs for each panel.

B. Aluminum – Paint color and finish sample for interpretive panel base, 4 inches by 4 inches sample.

## **2.7 QUALITY ASSURANCE**

Quality of the entire project must conform to the specifications and bid submittals as approved by the customer.

### **2.7.1 EXPERIENCE**

Craftsmen shall have a minimum of five years proven experience in this type of work.

### **2.7.2 EVIDENCE**

The supplier shall provide the customer with evidence of having completed the manufacture of two projects of similar scope within the preceding three years.

### **2.7.3 SPECIFIC SUBMITTAL**

The supplier shall provide specific samples of color matching and graphic resolution ability to the customer for approval.

## **2.8 ENVIRONMENTAL**

The supplier shall be able to demonstrate compliance with all workers' safety and environmental regulations in effect at the location of manufacture.

## **2.9 WARRANTY**

The supplier shall provide a signed written warranty issued in the name of the customer stating that the porcelain enamel signage has a guaranteed life of twenty-five years from the date of delivery against fading and five years against spalling, pinholes, discoloration, staining, or rusting.

## **2.10 WRITTEN GUARANTEE**

The supplier shall also certify in writing that the porcelain enameling will be performed in accordance with the current edition of the PEI Technical Manual: section PEI 1001 – "Specification for Architectural Porcelain Enamel on Steel for Exterior Use", as issued by the Porcelain Enamel Institute.

## **2.11 ACCEPTABLE MANUFACTURERS FOR PORCELAIN ENAMEL PANELS AND EXTRUDED ALUMINUM SIGN BASE**

A. ABC Industries, 123 Main Street, Ste A  
Anytown, USA 12345, Tel: (800) 555-1234,  
Fax: (800) 555-1234, Email:  
sampleonly@abcindustries.com

B. DEF Industries, 123 Any Avenue,  
Anytown, USA 67890, Tel: (800) 555-5678,  
Fax: (800) 555-5678, Email:  
sampleonly@defindustries.com

## **PART 3 - ART AND IMAGING**

### **3.1 ART PREPARATION**

The supplier shall produce film positives and/or negatives from electronic art files as supplied by the customer.

### **3.2 ART APPROVALS**

All artwork, including laser separations, digital color composites, color keys, bluelines, and/or full size film shall be submitted to the customer for approval before it is reproduced in porcelain enamel.

### **3.3 ART WORK**

#### **3.3.1 ORIGINALS**

Original artwork shall not be harmed in any way (writing, cutting, folding, rough handling, etc.) and shall be returned to the client upon successful completion and acceptance of the project.

#### **3.3.2 LETTERING**

The sign lettering and layout shall conform to the details for the LASAN Sign Design Standards as shown in Figure 2 in the specifications.

#### **3.3.3 LOGOS**

The LASAN will provide the Contractor with a Digital LASAN Logo to be used for the Project Identification Signs.

### **3.4 IMAGING**

The application of graphics shall be done using various imaging techniques as required to satisfy the design intent.

#### **3.4.1 LINE ART / SPOT COLOR APPLICATION**

Line art and / or spot color shall be printed over background colors in perfect registration, with uniform edges, at a minimum output resolution of 1200 DPI.

Line weight thickness shall be printed at a minimum of 1/2 point and type shall be printed at a minimum size of 6 points. The supplier is responsible for the appropriate trapping where colors touch.

#### **3.4.2 FOUR COLOR PROCESS**

For panels up to nine square feet, four color process imaging shall be in perfect registration in a resolution of not less than 150 lines per inch (LPI). Please note: 150 LPI requires a minimum input resolution of 300 dots per inch (DPI) at full size, and a minimum output resolution of 2400 DPI. For panels greater than nine square feet, four color process imaging shall be in perfect registration in a resolution of not less than 100 LPI (200 DPI minimum input resolution and 1200 DPI minimum output resolution). If requested, supplier must be able to print at a maximum resolution of 300 LPI (600 DPI input resolution, and 3600 DPI output resolution) for panels which have a maximum dimension of 36 inches in either direction.

#### **3.4.3 TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY**

Supplier shall be proficient in the following imaging techniques and able to demonstrate capabilities to the customer: reproduction of photographs or original art by halftone, duotone, and four-color process, as well as special imaging techniques including hand painting, stencil brushing, spraying textures, and airbrushing.

### **3.5 SCREEN PRINTING PASTES**

Screen printing pastes shall be milled to a 400-mesh particle size or smaller and shall have sufficient glass content to be acid-

resistant, corrosion proof, opaque, UV proof, and vandal resistant.

### **3.6 COLOR MATCHING**

The supplier shall demonstrate proficiency in matching a wide range of colors as represented by color systems such as the Pantone Matching System (PMS), Matthews Paints, Toyo Inks, etc.

## **PART 4 - FABRICATION AND PROCESS**

### **4.1 METAL APPROVALS**

The supplier shall generate individual shop drawings from direction provided by the customer. Fabrication shall not commence until said shop drawings have been approved.

### **4.2 METAL FABRICATION**

Steel substrates shall be machine fabricated in accordance with approved shop drawings and shall exhibit straight lines, square corners and/or smooth bends, and shall be free of twists, kinks, warps, dents, and other imperfections which may affect appearance or serviceability. Curved sections shall be formed to smooth and even radii.

### **4.3 FLATNESS**

Finished panels shall have a maximum variation of 0.188 inch in a convex direction when measured perpendicular to the nominal plane of the panel face. Variation in the concave direction shall be limited to 0.094 inch from the actual plane of the panel face. These tolerances are for panels with a face area of 8 sq. ft. or less. Proportionately greater allowance will be permitted for panels of greater areas.

### **4.4 SQUARENESS**

Panels of less than 8 square feet shall be square within 0.063 inch as measured across the diagonal and within 0.094 inch on panels over 8 square feet.

### **4.5 WELDING**

Fusion welds must be free of porosity, inclusions, foreign matter, cracks and pinholes. Any wire or rod fillers used must match the chemical composition of the base metal. All welds shall be ground and sanded smooth to match the radius of the mechanical break. Refer to Porcelain Enamel Institute Technical Manual "PEI-201" section 7.

### **4.6 HOLES AND CUTOUTS**

The cutting of any holes shall be made by mechanical equipment and shall be completed prior to applying the enamel coating. All machined edges shall be sufficiently ground to hold a porcelain coating.

### **4.7 FORMING**

All forming shall be via mechanical equipment and shall be completed prior to the porcelain enamel coating.

### **4.8 METAL PREPARATION / CLEANING**

#### **4.8.1 DEGREASING**

Prior to the enameling process, all parts shall be degreased by immersion in an approved degreasing fluid. Oil residues must be completely removed to ensure proper porcelain adhesion to the steel substrate.

#### **4.8.2 RINSING**

All parts must be adequately rinsed prior to the phosphate coating process.

#### **4.8.3 COATING**

Immediately after rinsing, all parts shall be immersed in a phosphate coating solution to avoid rusting of steel prior to and during the enameling process.

#### **4.9 PORCELAIN ENAMELING**

A porcelain enamel ground coat shall be applied to all areas of each unit, including backside and flanges, by spraying methods recognized by PEI and VEDC. At least one additional separately fired cover coating shall be applied to the face, sides, and flanges of each unit. For corrosion protection and flatness, one additional cover coating shall be applied to the backside of each panel.

#### **4.10 FINISH**

The cover coat shall not exhibit any breaks, gas bubbles, scumming, hairlines, stress lines or other surface defects when visually inspected.

#### **4.11 FINISH AND BACKGROUND COLOR CONTROL**

The color and finish shall match samples previously submitted by the supplier and approved by the customer within (2) NBS units (Note: a 1-2 NBS unit variation is barely perceptible to the human eye).

#### **4.12 GROUND COAT AND COVER COAT THICKNESS**

Ground coat and cover coat applications shall be applied in accordance with PEI recommendations to a thickness range between 0.004" to 0.020", as required by the supplier to suit the intended use.

#### **4.13 FIRING**

Panels shall be fired at temperatures above 1,400° Fahrenheit in a furnace specifically designed for porcelain enamel manufacturing. After firing, each panel shall be submitted to a visual inspection compared to the customer approved control sample for color consistency.

### **PART 5 – TRANSPORT AND DELIVERY**

#### **5.1 INSPECTION**

Prior to crating, finished panels shall be inspected for blemishes, chips and flatness. Any panel not meeting the requirements of this specification shall be rejected and promptly replaced.

#### **5.2 CLEANING**

All panels shall be cleaned in advance of packaging and/or crating.

#### **5.3 CRATING**

All sign panels shall be packed in wooden crates that completely enclose them from exposure to the environment and/or equipment. The crates shall be lined with packing material to prevent movement of panels within the crates.

#### **5.4 DELIVERY**

The responsibility of shipping shall be established per the contract as agreed upon by the supplier and the customer.

## **5.5 FREIGHT CLAIMS**

The receiver shall be responsible for reporting to the supplier any damage incurred during shipping and/or any freight claims within 48 hours of receipt.

## **5.6 MAINTENANCE**

The supplier shall provide to the customer instruction documentation addressing the care, cleaning, and maintenance of materials for incorporation into maintenance manuals.

## **PART 6 – INSTALLATION**

### **6.1. GENERAL**

#### **6.1.1 LOCATION**

Sign(s) shall be located such that it will not be subject to damage from equipment or vehicles working at the project site. Exact location of the moveable signs shall be determined in the field as directed by the LASAN, but in general it shall be installed near the major work area and moved as work progresses.

A - One Ground Mount type sign shall be located near [*LASAN to add street/address location*].

B - Two Movable Mount type signs shall be located along [*LASAN to add street/address location*]

#### **6.1.2 DETAILS**

See Sign Installation Details, Figure 1, in the specifications for additional requirements.

#### **6.1.3 SCHEDULE**

The signs shall be placed into position as a part of the work of mobilization (see LASAN specification Section XXXXX).

#### **6.1.4 REMOVAL**

Temporary signs shall be removed from the site within 30 days of completion of project.

## **PART 7 – MAINTENANCE**

### **7.1 GENERAL**

Project sign shall be maintained in good condition by the Contractor at all times during the entire construction period. In case of damage to the sign from any cause, including environmental conditions and fading, the Contractor shall repair, re-erect, repaint, and/or install a new sign, as required. All such repair or maintenance shall be completed promptly within five days of any such damage to the complete satisfaction of the LASAN.

### Figure C-1 – Sample of a Sign Installation Standard Plate

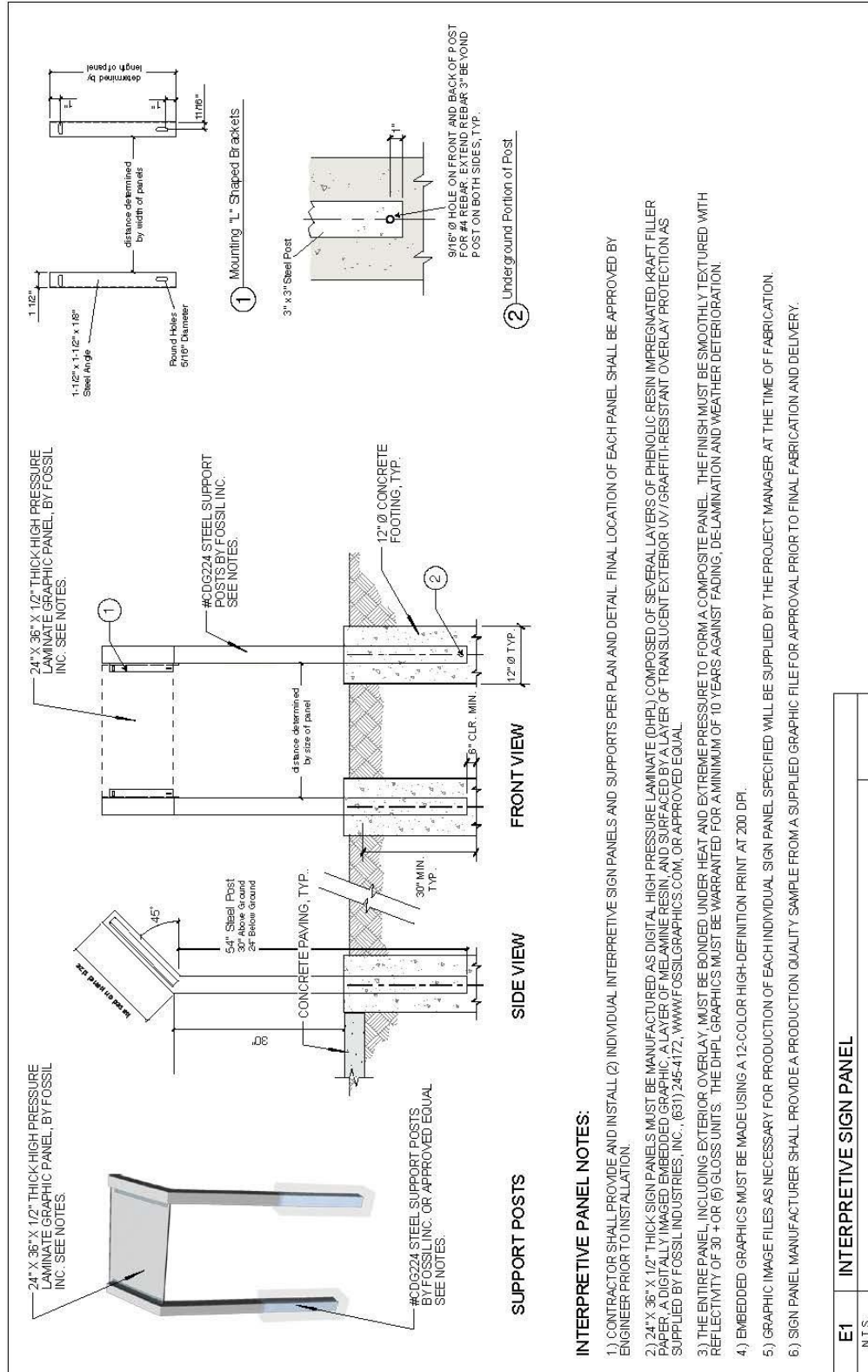
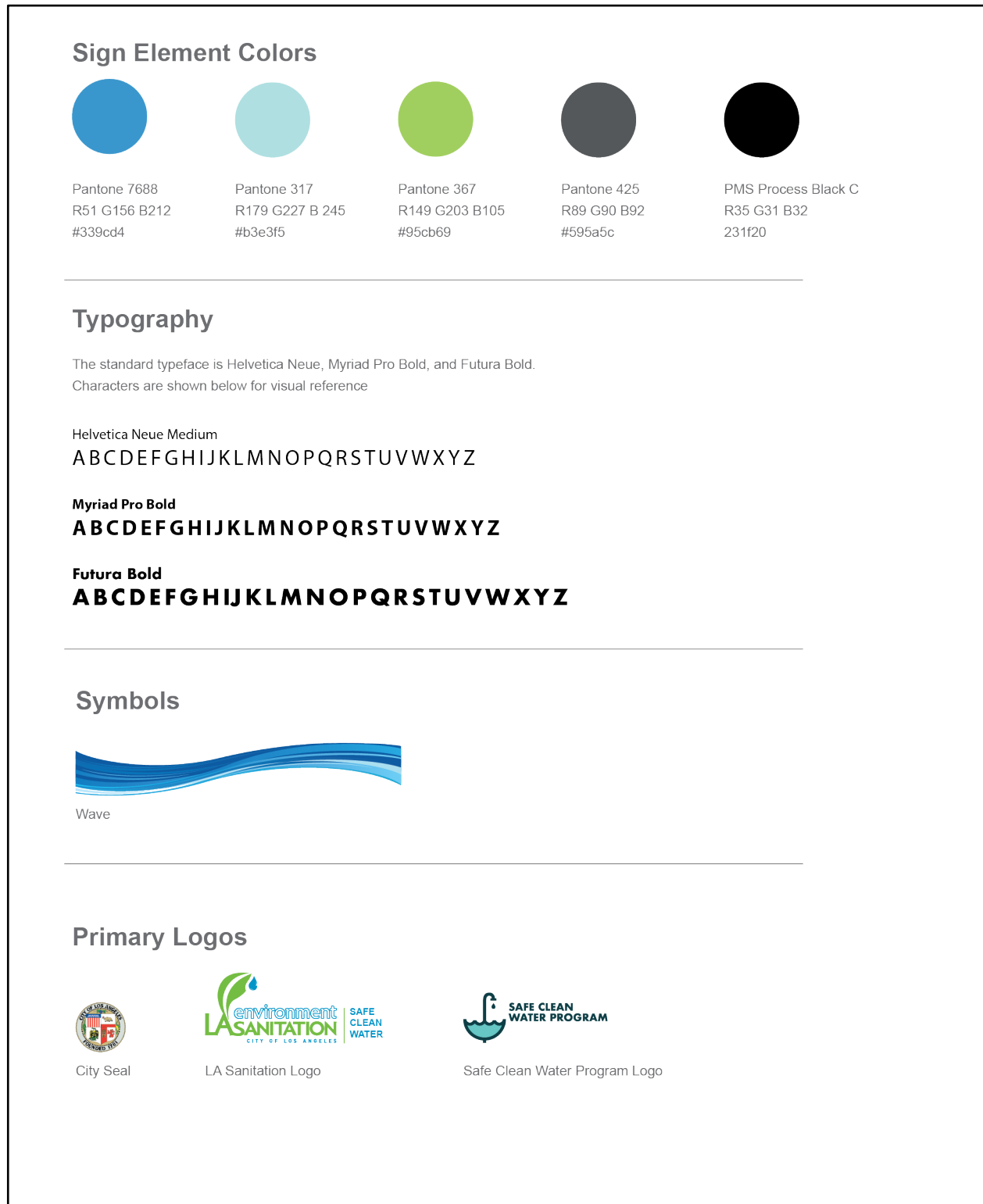




Figure C-2 – LA City SCWP Sign Element Standards





As a covered entity under Title II of the American Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities.

En relación con el Artículo II del Acto de Americanos con Incapacidades, la Ciudad de Los Angeles no discrimina en base de incapacidad física, y si usted lo pide, la Ciudad proveerá en un nivel razonable, igual acceso a sus programas, servicios y actividades.





SAFE  
CLEAN  
WATER

# CENTRAL SANTA MONICA BAY WATERSHED COORDINATORS

STRATEGIC OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT PLAN

FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024



PREPARED FOR THE  
CENTRAL SANTA MONICA BAY WATERSHED AREA STEERING COMMITTEE  
BY SGA MARKETING AND HEAL THE BAY

May 2023



Heal the Bay

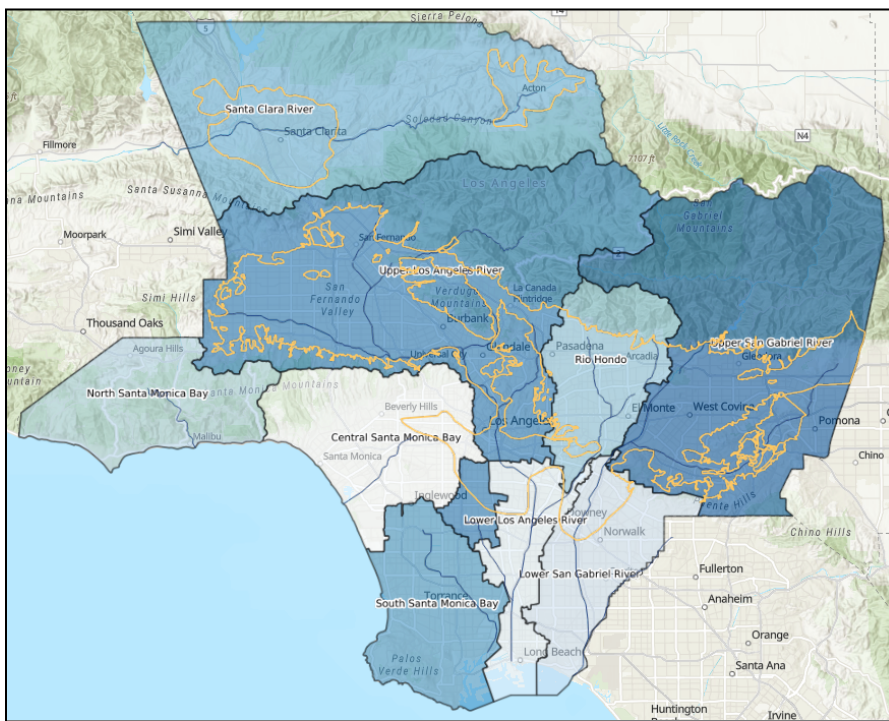


# Land Acknowledgement

The CSMB Watershed Area in Los Angeles County is located in the traditional ancestral land of the [Tongva/Gabrieleño and Chumash Peoples](#) who have lived and continue to live here.

## Official Los Angeles County Land Acknowledgement (Adopted Nov 1st, 2022):

The County of Los Angeles recognizes that we occupy land originally and still inhabited and cared for by the Tongva, Tataviam, Serrano, Kizh, and Chumash Peoples. We honor and pay respect to their elders and descendants — past, present, and emerging — as they continue their stewardship of these lands and waters. We acknowledge that settler colonization resulted in land seizure, disease, subjugation, slavery, relocation, broken promises, genocide, and multigenerational trauma. This acknowledgment demonstrates our responsibility and commitment to truth, healing, and reconciliation and to elevating the stories, culture, and community of the original inhabitants of Los Angeles County. We are grateful to have the opportunity to live and work on these ancestral lands. We are dedicated to growing and sustaining relationships with Native peoples and local tribal governments, including (in no particular order) the:



- Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
- Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council
- Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
- Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation
- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
- San Fernando Band of Mission Indians

To learn more about the First Peoples of Los Angeles County, please visit the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission website at [anaic.lacounty.gov](http://anaic.lacounty.gov).





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# SECTION 1

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## PURPOSE & OVERVIEW





## PURPOSE

The role of the Watershed Coordinator was first introduced in the Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) in 2021. There are a total of 12 Coordinators across nine Watershed Areas, with some Watershed Areas having multiple Coordinators. SGA Marketing (SGA) and Heal the Bay were selected for this role by the Central Santa Monica Bay (CSMB) Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC). Michelle Struthers of SGA and Mikaela Randolph of Heal the Bay are serving as the Watershed Coordinators for this fiscal year, and are assisted by a team of SGA and Heal the Bay staff members.

The purpose of this Outreach Plan is to:

1. Establish outreach and engagement goals that reflect and support SCWP goals;
2. Describe the strategies and tactics we will use to achieve our goals; and
3. Define how we will evaluate our progress in pursuit of our goals.

## OVERVIEW

This plan has five components:

1. **A vision for success** for the Watershed Coordinator role;
2. How we will **evaluate our success**;
3. **Outreach and engagement activities for FY 23-24** which describe what actions we will take in pursuit of the vision;
4. A description of the **regional collaboration** efforts that influence and drive our work; and
5. An **appendix**, which contains:
  - a. Our **detailed description of the Watershed Area**- its physical, social, and political characteristics - originally published and unchanged from the FY 21-22 Outreach Plan; and
  - b. An **Interested Party list** of stakeholders that we have identified as important entities involved in or impacted by the Safe Clean Water Program and the CSMB WASC's work. This list should be considered a "living" database, meaning that it is constantly growing and is not exhaustive. Suggestions for contacts, organizations, agencies, and institutions for inclusion on this list are welcome and encouraged.



# SECTION 2

---

## **VISION FOR THE WATERSHED COORDINATOR ROLE & EVALUATION METRICS**





## VISION FOR SUCCESS

Our vision for success in this role is one in which all projects:

- are aligned with local priorities and needs;
- are developed with equitable access and opportunity - meaning leveling the playing field for entities that have good ideas but fewer resources; and,
- meet all four aspects of the SCWP Mission stated below.

## PROGRAM MISSION

### CAPTURE IT

Increase our yearly collection of rainwater to supply water for millions of people in L.A. County.

### CLEAN IT

Reduce the volume of trash before it reaches our beaches and coastal waters.

### MAKE IT SAFE

Help eliminate the toxins, fertilizers, bacteria, plastics, metals from our cars, and chemicals that flow into the ocean.

### MAKE IT FOR EVERYONE

Protect creeks and streams, build parks, liven up concrete landscapes, and create green space for our communities.

## EVALUATING OUR SUCCESS

Given the long timeframe of project development, the evaluation of our success is focused **on output not outcome**, per the successful execution of our deliverables delineated in Section 3.



# SECTION 3

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## OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES







## INTRODUCTION

This FY 23-24 Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan ('Plan') is in many ways a continuation of the FY 21-22 and FY 22-23 Outreach Plans. Included in this year's Plan are all elements of previous Plans that we feel have worked well and are worth continuing.

As in previous years, our outreach and engagement strategies for FY 23-24 are organized into five focus areas:

1. Understand Community Needs
2. Solicit New Projects
3. Support Funded SCWP Projects
4. Raise Public Awareness
5. Support the WASC through Information Sharing

Each of the five focus areas has defined goals that describe how the focus area will support SCWP goals. We have also added new activities that reflect learnings gained to date or work to support the evolving needs of a maturing program. All new or modified activities have goals shaded with yellow highlighting. A rationale for all the added activities is included in the "Descriptions" column.



## FOCUS AREA 1: Understand Community Needs

### END GOALS (THE WHY)

1. To gather information from community members about their needs and priorities; and
2. To share insights about community-stated needs with project developers and the CSMB WASC.

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	GOAL
<b>A. Meet with Interested Parties</b>	<p>In FY 21-22, we focused on scheduling meetings and developing relationships with municipalities, community-based organizations, and regional watershed management agencies. In FY 22-23, while continuing the broader engagement efforts from FY 21-22, we began also contacting neighborhood councils. We contacted 37 neighborhood councils and gave presentations on the SCWP to 11 of them.</p> <p>In FY 23-24, we will continue cultivating relationships with the neighborhood councils we contacted in FY 22-23 as well as pursue engagement opportunities with elected officials, community-based organizations, non-profits, business associations, and municipalities. The focus of this outreach will be on forming relationships with interested parties that will help the CSMB WASC better understand the evolving needs of our communities as well as identify promising projects or strategic partnership opportunities that serve the goals of the SCWP. Our goal will be to give 15 presentations to interested parties throughout the year.</p>	15 presentations to interested parties
<b>B. Conduct a Community Needs Survey</b>	We will continue to distribute the community needs survey in both English and Spanish via community events, interested party meetings, the Heal the Bay website, and our quarterly newsletter. To share insights about community needs with the CSMB WASC, we will share findings from the survey via periodic presentations to the WASC and in our quarterly reporting.	150 survey responses from community members  4 survey reports included in quarterly reports
<b>C. Attend Community</b>	We will continue to attend events such as community convenings, local workshops, or community cleanups throughout	24 events



<b>Events</b>	the CSMB Watershed Area in order to cultivate an authentic understanding of community needs and priorities. In FY 23-24 we aim to attend 24 community events - doubling last year's goal.	Events may be attended in person or virtually.
<b>D. Organize Project Site Tours</b>	In FY 22-23, we set a goal to organize two tours of SCWP projects. We surpassed that goal by organizing three tours, all of which were well-attended. Given the success of our events in FY 22-23, we will organize two new tours in FY 23-24. These tours will showcase Infrastructure Program projects that exemplify SCWP goals in order to enhance the community's understanding of SCWP projects and their beneficial impacts.	Up to 2 tours
<b>E. Facilitate a Community Workshop</b>	Facilitating discussions about stormwater issues in public forums has become a key component of our watershed coordination efforts. In FY 22-23, we facilitated a Schools & Stormwater Symposium designed to engage schools in the SCWP specifically and regional stormwater management efforts in general. Heal the Bay also organized a Blue Table Talk - a workshop where water experts and community members gathered to discuss drought, water quality, and water supply issues in their communities. In FY 23-24, we will organize another community workshop, this time centering indigenous voices and perspectives in a panel discussion about water issues and opportunities in Los Angeles County.	1 workshop



## FOCUS AREA 2: Solicit New Projects

### END GOALS (THE WHY)

To support the delivery of high-quality, high-impact project applications to the WASC for consideration.

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	GOAL
<b>A. Outreach to Schools and College Campuses</b>	In FY 22-23, following the Schools & Stormwater Symposium, we contacted all school districts and community college districts in the Watershed Area. Our goal for this outreach was to establish relationships with educational institutions in the CSMB Watershed Area, increase awareness of the SCWP among these institutions, and identify opportunities for projects or strategic partnerships that support SCWP goals. In FY 23-24, we will continue building relationships with the CSMB Watershed Area's educational institutions with this goal in mind. We will also partner with other SCWP Watershed Coordinators to organize a site tour of a successful school greening project and develop a resource packet for future school applicants.	1 tour of a successful school greening project site  1 resource packet for school applicants
<b>B. Support Identification of Cost-Sharing Opportunities</b>	The SCWP awards points to project applicants that have secured leveraged funding. To support the development of high-quality applications, we will continue to identify and share potential cost-sharing opportunities with project applicants. This will be aided by our ongoing efforts to build and maintain an accurate and comprehensive funding database for SCWP applicants - an effort that began in FY 21-22.	Identification of cost-sharing opportunities for program applicants
<b>C. Provide Guidance to Project Applicants</b>	<p>In previous Plans, this activity was titled "Provide Community Engagement Guidance". However, as we've become more established in our role, the scope of our interactions with project applicants has broadened to become more general and comprehensive in its nature. A list of the project concepts we've identified and descriptions of our engagement with the project developers can be found in the table below (page 14).</p> <p>In FY 23-24, we will continue to provide project applicants with recommendations for how to enhance their applications and ensure the CSMB WASC receives high-quality applications. We will continue to educate potential applicants on SCWP funding opportunities, the application process, and eligibility criteria, and</p>	Provide resources, support, and guidance to all project applicants that contact us





	best practices for developing a high-quality application that reflects SCWP goals and community needs.	
<b>D. Develop Technical Resource Program Case Studies</b>	<p>In FY 22-23, we developed and presented to the WASC a case study of a SCWP project that leveraged a public-private partnership. We then contacted chambers of commerce throughout the CSMB Watershed Area, seeking out opportunities to share this case study and raise awareness about the SCWP in the business community. Unfortunately, these efforts did not yield results and no relationships with chambers of commerce were forged as a result.</p> <p>In FY 23-24, we will shift our focus by developing a set of case studies that demonstrate the range of projects that have been submitted for Technical Resources Program ('TRP') funding and any promising practices that can be gleaned from completed feasibility studies to date. The case studies will include details about what was known about the project concept at the time its application was submitted to the SCWP and project outcomes (e.g. what the WASC, community, or project proponents gained from the feasibility study funding). These case studies will serve as a resource to project developers who are considering applying to the TRP and to our WASC who will benefit from a broadened range of references when reviewing TRP applicants in the future.</p>	<p>1 slide deck presenting case studies from the Technical Resources Program</p>



## Project Concepts Tracked by the CSMB Watershed Coordinators

The below table lists all project concepts that have been identified by or flagged to the Watershed Coordinators to date. Some concepts are somewhat mature with various studies completed while others are simply concepts discussed by interested parties.

Project Name	Project Contact(s)	Municipality and Street Address	Watershed Coordinators' Engagement with Project	Status
West LA Veteran Community (WLAVA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City Fabrick</li> <li>U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs</li> </ul>	<p>Located in unincorporated Los Angeles County</p> <p>11301 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles</p>	Convened a meeting with members of the project development team (City Fabrick, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, US Vets, Awen Solutions, Craddock Group, Century) and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District ('LACFCD') to discuss stormwater capture/treatment opportunities for the redevelopment plan and this project's suitability for SCWP funding. Shared information about the redevelopment plan with Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, LACFCD, and City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation ('LASAN').	Project developers have not made a decision on whether to pursue SCWP funding to our knowledge.
Riviera Country Club Regional EWMP Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Riviera Country Club leadership</li> <li>Geosyntec</li> </ul>	<p>Located in the City of Los Angeles</p> <p>1250 Capri Drive Pacific Palisades, California 90272</p>	Met with Riviera Country Club leadership and their consultants at Geosyntec to discuss their redevelopment plans to capture and use dry and wet weather flows for golf course irrigation.	Project developers are not pursuing SCWP funding at this time but do hope to complete the project.
San Vicente Streetscape Plaza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City of West Hollywood</li> <li>Imelk</li> </ul>	<p>Located in the City of West Hollywood</p> <p>North San Vicente Boulevard between Santa Monica Boulevard and Melrose Avenue</p>	Contacted the project development team to discuss the concept and its suitability for SCWP funding. Providing ongoing guidance and resources about how to submit an application for SCWP funding and which type of funding would best meet their needs.	Project developers plan to submit an application for Year 5 TRP funding.
Mar Vista Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kounkuey Design Initiative</li> <li>Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles</li> </ul>	<p>Under jurisdiction of the City of Los Angeles</p> <p>11965 Allin St Culver City, CA 90230</p>	Contacted Kounkuey to learn about their projects and identified this project as having shared goals with SCWP.	To our knowledge project developers are not pursuing SCWP funding at this time.
Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District</li> </ul>	<p>Under jurisdiction of the City of Santa Monica</p> <p>Project site addresses unknown</p>	Watershed Coordinators were approached by the Chief Operations Officer at SMMUSD at an event in May 2022, who notified us that the School District was considering redevelopment plans for five of its campuses, including potential stormwater management features using school fields.	Status of these projects are unclear. SMMUSD has not provided new information since the initial contact was made.



Culver City Unified School District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Culver City Unified School District</li> </ul>	<p>Under jurisdiction of the City of Culver City</p> <p>Project site addresses unknown</p>	<p>Contacted CCUSD in February 2023 to inquire about any redevelopment plans in anticipation of new MS4 permit compliance guidance. CCUSD asked whether SCWP would fund the replacement of turf with native plants. Watershed coordinators provided information about funding eligibility and types.</p>	<p>Project developers have not indicated whether they plan to apply for funding at this time.</p>
Los Angeles Unified School District ('LAUSD')	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Braddock Elementary School</li> <li>• LAUSD</li> </ul>	<p>Under Jurisdiction of Los Angeles Unified School District</p>	<p>Have been in regular communication with Braddock Elementary School, Los Angeles Unified School District, and LASAN to discuss stormwater infrastructure plans. A landscape architect has drafted plans to install rain gardens, soccer field with underground cisterns. The applicant is interested in SCWP funding through the Infrastructure Program to complete the mostly-funded project.</p>	<p>Project developers have not confirmed when they plan to apply for funding.</p>
Culver Blvd. Median Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Los Angeles (L.A. SAN)</li> <li>• Del Rey Neighborhood Council</li> </ul>	<p>Under jurisdiction of the City of Los Angeles</p>	<p>Have been in communication with the Del Rey Neighborhood Council since January 2023 about the L.A. side of the Culver Blvd. median that include stormwater infrastructure similar to what has been done on the City of Culver City side of the median.</p>	<p>Project developers are interested and are in the process of talking with the City of L.A. to explore the priority and feasibility of this project.</p>
90 Freeway Median Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Del Rey Neighborhood Council</li> </ul>	<p>Under the jurisdiction of Caltrans</p>	<p>Have been in communication since Oct. 2022 to incorporate stormwater features into an existing beautification project concept.</p>	<p>Project developers are interested in pursuing funding but are working to understand Caltrans priorities for this area.</p>

## FOCUS AREA 3: Support Funded SCWP Projects

### END GOALS (THE WHY)

To support the successful completion of projects funded by the SCWP by providing ongoing community engagement support and assistance in identifying additional funding in instances where the project has unmet funding needs.

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	GOAL
<b>A. Catalog and Share Cost-Sharing Opportunities</b>	<p>In FY 22-23, we identified 16 potential cost-sharing opportunities identified for six SCWP projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MacArthur Lake Rehabilitation Project (Measure A; CDFW Restoration Grant; CA Hazard Mitigation Grant; WaterSMART NOFO; Urban Community Drought Relief GL/PSP; Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program)</li> <li>2. Edward Vincent Jr. Park Stormwater Improvements Project (Prop 1 Implementation Grant; Riverine Stewardship Program; Transformative Climate Communities Program; America the Beautiful Challenge 2022; Clean California Local Grant Program)</li> <li>3. Ballona Creek TMDL Project: Encouraged the team to contact CalTrans staff. LASAN subsequently secured &gt;\$1M in funding from CalTrans.</li> <li>4. Fern Dell Restoration and Stormwater Capture Project (California Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) General Grant)</li> <li>5. Ladera Heights - W Centinela Ave Green Improvement Project (Prop 1; Measure A; Safe Streets and Roads for All Program)</li> <li>6. Washington Boulevard Stormwater and Urban Runoff Diversion: Coordinated letters of support for a State funding opportunity which the project team applied for.</li> </ol>	<p>4 updates to the cost-sharing database included in quarterly reports</p> <p>Identification of cost-sharing opportunities for funded SCWP projects in the Infrastructure Program that have unmet funding needs</p>



	<p>We received positive feedback from the Washington Boulevard, MacArthur Lake, and Ballona Creek TMDL project teams that the information we provided was helpful. With this in mind, we will continue to share promising funding opportunities with projects that have unmet funding needs in FY 23-24.</p> <p>We will also continue building and maintaining the funding database we created in FY 21-22 to support cost-sharing in the Infrastructure Program. The funding database will continue to be published in each quarterly report to serve as a resource to project developers.</p>	
<b>B. Participate in Technical Assistance Teams</b>	<p>In FY 22-23, we joined the Syd Kronenthal Park Project Technical Assistance Team (TAT) in monthly progress meetings. In those meetings, we offered guidance on best practices for community engagement, identified and helped connect with interested parties that could offer insights on community priorities and offer letters of support, shared findings from the Watershed Coordinators' community needs survey, convened a meeting with LASAN to discuss their concerns about the project's impact on the Ballona Creek TMDL project, and provided feedback on outreach materials and methodologies.</p> <p>In FY 23-24, we will perform similar work to the above for the Fern Dell Restoration and Stormwater Capture Project, which received TRP funding in the FY 22-23 SIP. During the Feasibility Study's development, we will be part of the TAT and participate in progress meetings, make recommendations based on best practices outlined in the Interim Guidelines, provide feedback and guidance as it relates to incorporating community-stated needs and priorities into the project's plans, identify relevant cost-sharing opportunities, and review any presentations for completeness and quality before they are presented to the WASC.</p> <p>Additionally, we will continue to cultivate relationships with project developers in the Infrastructure Program, providing ongoing feedback and recommendations as to how they can better encompass community priorities and help achieve the goals of the SCWP as relevant and/or helpful.</p>	<p>Attend approximately 2 meetings per month to provide feedback/guidance on community engagement elements of project plans</p>



<b>C. Ongoing Identification of Interested Party Contacts Details</b>	<p>In FY 23-24, we will continue to add to and refine the Interested Party database we first began in FY 21-22. The database includes contact information for municipalities, regulatory and regional planning bodies, community-based organizations, non-profit organizations, chambers of commerce, neighborhood councils, school districts, universities, and other entities in the Watershed Area.</p>	<p>Maintenance of a CSMB Interested Parties database</p> <p>Project-specific interested party lists provided upon request to project developers</p>
<b>D. Share Results of the Community Needs Survey with Project Developers</b>	<p>In FY 22-23, we shared findings from our Community Needs Survey with municipalities and project developers in the CSMB Watershed Area. Findings reports were developed for municipalities or project vicinities with five or more responses. The following project developers received findings reports: Los Angeles County Public Works, Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment, Beverly Hills, Culver City, and the Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project team. The five reports we shared were tailor-made to focus on the responses we received from residents within the municipality or project area. The reports summarized how respondents characterized the needs, strengths, and infrastructure priorities of their communities, especially as they relate to water. Culver City, LASAN, and Los Angeles County Public Works responded with positive feedback, stating that the information was useful. In light of the positive feedback we received, we will continue distributing the survey and, as additional responses are acquired, distribute updated reports to municipalities and project developers in the CSMB Watershed Area.</p>	<p>Approximately 6 survey reports</p>
<b>E. Distribute E-Newsletters to SCWP Project Developers</b>	<p>We began publishing periodic email newsletters to potential and current project developers in the Watershed Area. The newsletters publicize SCWP deadlines and updates, project development resources, external funding opportunities, community events, and more. During FY 22-23, the five newsletters we published achieved very positive engagement with an above-average open rate of 38%. Due to the positive engagement we've seen with the newsletters we publish, we decided to add a goal of sending up to four e-newsletters during FY 23-24.</p>	<p>Up to 4 E-newsletters</p>

## FOCUS AREA 4: Raise Public Awareness

### END GOALS (THE WHY)

1. To build awareness of the SCWP in general and projects that have been proposed or approved for funding specifically; and
2. To increase community engagement in the SCWP.

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	GOAL
<b>A. Conduct Outreach at Community Events</b>	<p>In FY 22-23, we tabled at eight in-person events throughout the Watershed Area, identifying and prioritizing events in settings conducive to meaningful engagement. For example, events with loud music or entertainment are avoided, as they hinder our capacity for clear, effective conversations with community members. We then narrow down potential events by prioritizing areas we have yet to table in with the goal of reaching diverse communities across the Watershed Area. To facilitate this process, we maintain a map of all events attended by HTB and SGA.</p> <p>In FY 23-24, we will continue to table community events and have set a goal of attending 12 in total. In addition to educating community members about the SCWP, we will also continue to solicit community input regarding priorities and needs via the Community Needs Survey and educate community members about the SCWP via Heal the Bay's existing programming (i.e., Speaker's Bureau, Nothing But Sand, Coastal Cleanup Day).</p>	12 Events
<b>B. Distribute E-Newsletters on SCWP to Community Members</b>	<p>We publish periodic email newsletters for community members who signed up for program updates while attending or engaging with SCWP or Heal the Bay programming within the CSMB Watershed Area. The newsletters provide community members with information about educational events, volunteer opportunities, project developments, program updates, and other opportunities to engage in stormwater issues in their community.</p>	Up to 4 E-newsletters





## FOCUS AREA 5: Support the WASC Through Information Sharing

### END GOALS (THE WHY)

1. To keep the WASC informed about our watershed coordination efforts;
2. To facilitate the regular delivery of feedback and direction from the WASC about the extent to which our efforts are supporting SCWP goals; and
3. To share learnings and insights gleaned with the WASC to support its informed decision-making.

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	GOAL
<b>A. Monthly Updates at WASC Meetings</b>	<p>In FY 22-23, our goal was to attend ten WASC meetings and to provide four quarterly update presentations. However, because WASC meeting schedules are subject to change, we feel it is more appropriate to focus our goal on what we hope to contribute to the meetings throughout the year.</p> <p>In FY 23-24, we plan to use WASC meetings to communicate our activities and progress across our five focus areas and to provide the WASC with information and resources that support their decision-making activities. Anticipated presentation topics include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of the FY 23-24 SOEP</li><li>• Review of community engagement and DAC benefits for Year 5 project applicants</li><li>• Case studies of TRPs funded in other watershed areas</li><li>• Summary of the SCCWRP's findings for scientific study applications submitted in Year 5</li><li>• Learnings to-date from the Community Needs Survey</li></ul>	<p>Up to 6 presentations to the WASC</p>
<b>B. Monthly Collaboration Meetings between Watershed Coordinators</b>	<p>As in previous years, we will attend monthly Watershed Coordinator collaboration meetings, during which time we will share resources developed, learnings from activities thus far and collaborate with Watershed Coordinators across Watershed Areas to advance SCWP goals.</p>	<p>Approximately 10 meetings attended/facilitated</p>
<b>C. Quarterly and Annual Reports</b>	<p>As in previous years and as required by our contract, we will share our activities, progress, and learnings in four quarterly reports and one annual report. Per our contract, SGA and Heal the Bay will publish separate reports.</p>	<p>4 Quarterly Reports (8 total)</p> <p>1 Annual Report (2 total)</p>

# SECTION 4

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## A REGIONAL COLLABORATION APPROACH







### Collaboration between CSMB Watershed Coordinators

SGA and Heal the Bay are the joint Watershed Coordinators for the CSMB Watershed Area. Heal the Bay is also the sole Watershed Coordinator for the South Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area, and SGA is also the sole Watershed Coordinator for the Lower Los Angeles River Watershed Area. All four Watershed Coordinators work in close collaboration with one another through regular meetings, joint problem-solving, and resource sharing.

The CSMB Watershed Coordinators meet at the start of each year to determine which organization - SGA Marketing (SGA) or Heal the Bay - will lead each activity outlined in the year's SOEP. Leadership roles are determined based on each organization's unique strengths and capacities. In prior years, SGA has led the Community Needs Survey effort - building the survey, monitoring response data for quality and completeness, generating periodic survey reports - and the development, maintenance, and public distribution of the Cost-Sharing Database. SGA has also published periodic email newsletters to potential and current project developers in the CSMB Watershed Area that publicize SCWP deadlines and updates, project development resources, external funding opportunities, community events, and more. At the same time, Heal the Bay has published quarterly email newsletters geared toward the general public that elevate watershed issues, raise awareness about the SCWP and its funded CSMB projects, and publicize community events. Heal the Bay has also organized community workshops and tours, such as the FY 22-23 Follow the Flow stormwater tour and Blue Table Talk. Heal the Bay represents the CSMB Watershed Area in the Watershed Coordinators' Schools and Stormwater Working Group, which is described in more detail below; Mikaela's deep expertise in schoolyard greening has been a natural fit for this work.

To ensure the CSMB Watershed Coordinators attend community events throughout the large Watershed Area, SGA and Heal the Bay divided the Watershed Area into two halves; SGA takes the lead on identifying and attending events north of Interstate 10 (e.g., Westwood, Midcity, Beverly Hills, West Hollywood, Koreatown, Silverlake), and Heal the Bay does the same for events south of Interstate 10 (e.g., Culver City, Inglewood, Baldwin Hills, South L.A., Marina Del Rey). Occasionally, depending on staff availability or on pre-existing relationships with the event's host, both CSMB Watershed Coordinators may attend events in each others' geographic focus areas.

In other areas, the Watershed Coordinators' work is completely collaborative and responsibilities are shared. These areas include the development of each year's SOEP, outreach to and meetings with interested parties, preparing and delivering presentations to the WASC, and participating in the Technical Assistance Teams for projects funded through the TRP program.

### Countywide Watershed Coordinator Collaboration

SGA and Heal the Bay have established relationships and collaborated on regional events and resources with the other ten Watershed Coordinators in the SCWP. We participate in or lead monthly meetings where all 12 Watershed Coordinators share updates about our activities as well as key learnings, insights, and resources. The overarching goal of our regionally collaborative approach with other Watershed Coordinators is to ensure we are not duplicating efforts and are sharing learnings, insights, and resources whenever possible.

We have also engaged in a special Watershed Coordinator working group focused on school engagement in the SCWP. The working group organized a [Schools & Stormwater Symposium](#) in FY 22-23 and is currently



engaged in planning efforts for a school greening project tour. Most recently, Mikaela Randolph has been appointed as a founding member of LAUSD's new Greening Schools and Climate Resilience Committee, where she will continue to seek school greening via stormwater management practices that support SCWP goals.

### **Collaboration with External Programs**

SGA and Heal the Bay will continue to pursue collaborative relationships with external programs engaged in similar regional work, including but not limited to the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program (DACIP), South Bay Integrated Regional Watershed Management Plan, Baldwin Hills Urban Watershed Conservancy, Ballona Creek Watershed Management Group, Marina Del Rey Watershed Management Group, Santa Monica Bay Enhanced Watershed Management Group, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission and OurWaterLA. The aim of this collaboration will be to identify shared goals, streamline programmatic redundancies, and share information or resources and identify potential funding opportunities.



# APPENDIX



## APPENDIX A: WATERSHED AREA DESCRIPTION

### □ Key Hydrological Features

The [CSMB Watershed Area](#) is located on the western edge of Los Angeles County ('LA County'). It consists of the Pacific coast on the west, parts of the Santa Monica Mountains to the north, and it stretches into part of Downtown LA to the east and part of El Segundo to the south. The Watershed Area drains to the Pacific Ocean and includes the Ballona Creek sub-watershed, the Marina Del Rey sub-watershed<sup>1</sup>, and several canyons in the Santa Monica Mountains.

The [major tributaries](#) to the Ballona Creek include Centinela Creek, Sepulveda Canyon Channel, Benedict Canyon Channel, and numerous storm drains. The Marina del Rey sub-watershed includes the Venice Canals, Grand Canal, and Ballona Lagoon. Much of the watershed's drainage network is controlled by structural flood control measures such as debris basins, storm drains, underground culverts, and open concrete channels, with any natural stream channels primarily found in the Santa Monica Mountains.

[Groundwater basins](#) underlying the CSMB Watershed Area include the Santa Monica Basin, Hollywood Basin, Central Basin, and West Coast Basin<sup>2</sup>.

### □ Key Social Features

The CSMB Watershed Area has a population of 1,757,708 according to 2016 census data. The CSMB Watershed Area is diverse, ranging from high-income areas in the Santa Monica Mountains, Beverly Hills, and the coast, to low-income areas and disadvantaged communities in some parts of Los Angeles, Inglewood, and Culver City and along Interstates 10 and 405. The area is also racially diverse. It has a 35.9% Non-Hispanic White population, a 35.8% Hispanic or Latino population, a 12.7% Asian population, an 11.9% Black or African American population, a 0.15% American Indian or Alaska Native population, and a 0.14% Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander population.

22% of the area is considered a disadvantaged community. The median household income in the CSMB Watershed Area is \$49,352. Central Santa Monica Bay has approximately [25,387 unhoused persons](#) representing Service Planning Areas 4, 5, and 6 and nearly half of all the unhoused population in Los Angeles County<sup>3</sup>.

### □ Opportunities for Community Investment Benefits

There is ample opportunity and need in the CSMB Watershed Area for achieving the SCW Program's

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<sup>1</sup> "Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area". Safe Clean Water Program.

<sup>2</sup> "South Bay Subregional Plan". LA County DPW. 2013.

<sup>3</sup> "2020 Homeless County by Service Planning Area". Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority.  
<https://www.lahsa.org/data?id=42-2020-homeless-count-by-service-planning-area>.



community benefit goals. The urbanization of many parts of the Watershed Area disrupts natural habitats. For instance, many marine tidal channels and lagoons, coastal dunes, brackish pools, perennial riparian habitat, and freshwater marshes in the Ballona Creek sub-watershed have been highly developed.

Because of this, the watershed could benefit from restoration of habitat and nature-based stormwater infrastructure. Increasing vegetation and tree canopy and restoring riparian habitat and wetlands would also help reduce the local urban heat island effect and provide stormwater capture benefits.

Additionally, there is opportunity to create more equitable access to parks and greenspaces, specifically in under-resourced communities. This is illustrated in the Trust for Public Land's [2021 ParkScore](#) data, which shows that in the City of LA, "residents in low-income neighborhoods have access to 24% less park space per person than the city median and 70% less than those in high-income neighborhoods." According to [The LA County Tree Canopy](#) Map, various urban parts of the watershed currently have low existing tree canopy but high potential for adding new tree cover.

## Safe, Clean Water Program Context

SGA Marketing and Heal the Bay are the two Watershed Coordinators for the Central Santa Monica Bay (CSMB) Watershed Area. SGA Marketing also serves as the Watershed Coordinator for the Lower LA River (LLAR) Watershed Area, and additionally, Heal the Bay serves as Watershed Coordinator for the South Santa Monica Bay (SSMB) Watershed Area.

The CSMB Watershed Area is allocated 12.39% of the [Regional Program funds](#), which amounts to \$17.24 million for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (FY 21-22)<sup>4</sup>. Table 3 lists how much funding each city in the CSMB Watershed Area received through the [Municipal Program funds](#) in FY 21-22, and whether the city is fully or partially within the CSMB Watershed Area<sup>5</sup>. The CSMB Watershed Area also shares municipalities with other Watershed Areas. El Segundo and Inglewood fall partially within the SSMB Watershed Area, and Los Angeles falls partially within the Upper LA River Watershed Area.

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<sup>4</sup> "Safe Clean Water Program 2021-22 Regional Tax Return Estimates". Safe Clean Water Program. 2021.

<sup>5</sup> "Safe Clean Water Program 2021-22 Local Tax Return Estimates". Safe Clean Water Program. 2021.





**Table 1. Municipal Funds Allocated to CSMB Watershed Area Cities for FY 21-22**

City	Municipal Funds Allocated	Partially or Fully Within Watershed Area
Los Angeles	\$36.57M	Partial
Santa Monica	\$0.81M	Full
Beverly Hills	\$0.55M	Full
Culver City	\$0.52M	Full
West Hollywood	\$0.26M	Full
Inglewood	\$0.99M	Partial
El Segundo	\$0.61M	Partial
Unincorporated County of LA	\$11.29M	Partial

Like all watersheds, the CSMB Watershed Area is hydrologically and politically connected to surrounding Watershed Areas that have their own WASCs and Regional Program funds.

The CSMB Watershed Area shares groundwater aquifers with surrounding watersheds. The West Coast Basin Aquifer, which underlies the southern portion of the Watershed Area, also underlies the SSMB, LLAR, and Lower San Gabriel River (LSGR) Watershed Areas. The [Central Basin Aquifer](#), which underlies the eastern portion of the CSMB Watershed Area, also underlies the LLAR, LSGR, Rio Hondo, and Upper LA River Watershed Areas<sup>6</sup>. These Watershed Areas share water agencies - the [West Basin Municipal Water District](#)<sup>7</sup> and the [Central Basin Municipal Water District](#)<sup>8</sup> - which manage water supply for their service areas.

There are three [Watershed Management Programs](#) (WMPs) that cover the CSMB Watershed Area. Culver City, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD), and LA County are the permittees on the [Marina del Rey](#) WMP<sup>9</sup>. Beverly Hills, Culver City, Inglewood, Los Angeles, Santa Monica, West Hollywood, Los Angeles County, and LACFCD are the permittees on the [Ballona Creek](#) WMP<sup>10</sup>. Los Angeles, El Segundo, Santa Monica, Los Angeles County, and LACFCD are the permittees on the [Santa Monica Bay Watershed Jurisdictions 2 & 3](#) WMP<sup>11</sup>.

<sup>6</sup> "Groundwater Basin Boundary Assessment Tool". Department of Water Resources. 2019. <https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/bbat/>

<sup>7</sup> "About Us". West Basin Municipal Water District. [www.westbasin.org/about-us/](http://www.westbasin.org/about-us/)

<sup>8</sup> Central Basin Municipal Water District. <https://www.centralbasin.org/>

<sup>9</sup> Marina Del Rey Watershed Management Group. [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water\\_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/watershed\\_management/marina\\_delrey/index.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/watershed_management/marina_delrey/index.html)

<sup>10</sup> Ballona Creek Watershed Management Group. [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water\\_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/watershed\\_management/ballona\\_creek/index.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/watershed_management/ballona_creek/index.html)

<sup>11</sup> Santa Monica Bay Jurisdictions 2 & 3 Watershed Management Group. [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water\\_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/watershed\\_management/santa\\_monica/index.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/watershed_management/santa_monica/index.html)



## Sources Referenced

For a more detailed Watershed Description, please see the [CSMB FY21-22 Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan](#). This Watershed Description draws from many existing reports, Watershed Management Plans (WMPs), and data sources. These include the [Ballona Creek Enhanced Watershed Management Plan](#) (EWMP), the [Marina del Rey EWMP](#), the [Santa Monica Bay Jurisdictional Group 2 & 3 EWMP](#), the [South Bay Subregional WMP](#), [CalEnviroscreen 3.0](#), Tree People's [LA County Tree Canopy Viewer](#), Tree People's "[The Power of Schools](#)" report, the US Census Bureau's [Walking and Bicycling to Work data](#), and the Trust for Public Land's [2021 ParkScore](#) report.



## APPENDIX B: INTERESTED PARTIES LIST

The following pages contain a list of stakeholders that we have identified as important entities involved in or impacted by the Safe Clean Water Program and the CSMB WASC's work. This list should be considered a "living" database, meaning that it is constantly growing and is not exhaustive. Suggestions for contacts, organizations, agencies and institutions for inclusion on this list are welcome and encouraged.

### Community-Based Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations & Environmental Advocacy Groups

Name/Entity	Description	CSMB Projects Supported/Involved In
<a href="#">Community Services Unlimited</a>	Works towards building sustainable, self-reliant communities, including food accessibility and garden programs.	
<a href="#">Communities for a Better Environment</a>	Statewide grassroots environmental justice organization with presence in LA county.	
<a href="#">SCOPE Los Angeles</a>	Works to build "grassroots power to create social and economic justice for low-income, immigrant, woman, femme, black, and brown communities in Los Angeles." Works on environmental justice and greenspace advocacy.	
<a href="#">The Solutions Project</a>	Supports "climate changemakers" with grants and media promotion.	
<a href="#">Liberty Hill</a>	Social justice organization working on environmental justice and ensuring greenspaces for disadvantaged communities in LA.	
<a href="#">Los Angeles Audubon Society</a>	Works on conservation, wildlife habitat, and protecting birds in the LA area through education and advocacy.	
<a href="#">Surfrider Foundation LA Chapter</a>	Works to protect the ocean and beaches through education and advocacy.	
<a href="#">The Bay Foundation</a>	Works with stakeholders, government, and nonprofits to restore and enhance Santa Monica Bay and local coastal waters.	
<a href="#">Ballona Creek Renaissance</a>	Works on "facilitating the long-term renewal of Ballona Creek and its watershed."	
<a href="#">LA Waterkeeper</a>	Advocacy group that works to "to eliminate pollution, achieve ecosystem health for our waterways and secure a resilient, multi-benefit, low-carbon water supply to the region."	
<a href="#">Council for Watershed Health</a>	Works to advance the health and sustainability of our region's watersheds, rivers, streams and habitat - both in natural areas and urban neighborhoods. Works on LA River Watershed monitoring and watershed coordination. Created <a href="#">RedesignLA</a> website to provide resources for SCWP participants.	



<a href="#">Tree People</a>	Engages in community outreach, education, forestry, park & trail stewardship, and policy research to create a safe, healthy, and sustainable urban environment.	
<a href="#">SLATE-Z</a>	Works in Vernon-Central, South Park, Florence, Exposition Park, Vermont Square, Leimert Park, and Baldwin Hills Crenshaw for better transportation, education, jobs, and public safety.	
<a href="#">Koreatown Youth and Community Center</a>	Committed to making Koreatown a safe and beautiful place to live and work.	
<a href="#">Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust</a>	Works to increase access to green space for communities of color.	
<a href="#">Social Justice Learning Institute</a>	Educates and empowers youth and community members to create social change. Based in Inglewood, CA and does work throughout CA.	
<a href="#">Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation</a>	An educational recreation of a working Native American Village. A living Chumash cultural village in Southern California.	
<a href="#">Our Water LA</a>	A "coalition of community leaders and organizations from across Los Angeles County united to create a strong water future for Los Angeles."	
<a href="#">Investing in Place</a>	Advocates for transportation to build healthy communities.	
<a href="#">7th Generation Advisors</a>	Provides expertise on and partners with nonprofits, government, and stakeholders on creating sustainability solutions.	Has helped provide letters of support, and is a partner on the Edward Vincent Jr Park project in Inglewood.
<a href="#">Groundwater Resources Association of California</a>	Works for sustainable groundwater for all through education, technical leadership, and advocacy.	
<a href="#">California Greenworks Inc</a>	Works on greening neighborhoods.	
<a href="#">Sierra Club Angeles Chapter</a>	Advocates for climate action and conservation. Has a Long Beach group and a Rio Hondo group.	
<a href="#">Theodore Payne Foundation</a>	Educates about and promotes native vegetation in Southern California.	
<a href="#">Trust for Public Land</a>	Protects and restores natural spaces by collaborating with communities to plan, design, and create parks, playgrounds, gardens, and trails.	
<a href="#">Gabrielino Tongva Springs Foundation</a>	Works to "preserve and protect the Kuruvungna Springs area at University High School." Educates the public about the history as well as preserving the cultural and historical resources of the area.	



<a href="#">Prevention Institute</a>	Works to build prevention and health equity into key policies and actions at the federal, state, local, and organizational level. Was involved with the LA River Revitalization Plan. Is a national organization with an office in LA.	
<a href="#">American Indian Community Council</a>	Serves as a centralized hub for resources to the Los Angeles County American Indian/Alaska Native Community. Promotes health, wellness, and community involvement	
<a href="#">Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous People</a>	Indigenous-led, community-based organization located in the ancestral homelands of the Tongva People in Los Angeles.	
<a href="#">LA Community Action Network</a>	LA CAN's constituency consists of extremely low-income and homeless people, primarily those living in Downtown LA and South Central LA. It works to uplift the voices of those dealing with poverty.	
<a href="#">Westside Food Bank</a>	Food bank that serves west LA County.	
<a href="#">Jewish Family Service LA</a>	A community services center, including a food pantry, mental health services, and educational services.	
<a href="#">World Harvest LA</a>	Food bank.	
<a href="#">LA Community Garden Council</a>	Partners with and offers resources to 42 community gardens across LA County.	Community Garden Stormwater Capture Investigation - Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed (FY 22-23)
<a href="#">Garden School Foundation</a>	Provides garden based education to Title I schools in LA.	
<a href="#">SEE- LA</a>	Supports food access in South L.A. and beyond through Farmers' markets	
<a href="#">Community Coalition</a>	A NGO focused on a range of issues in South L.A.	
<a href="#">Seeds of Hope</a>	A ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles which seeks to cultivate wellness by providing garden-based nutrition education and working to transform unused land into productive gardens and orchards.	
<a href="#">Windsor-View Hills Facebook Group</a>	A Facebook group for residents of the unincorporated community of Windsor-View Hills.	
<a href="#">First Unitarian Church of LA</a>	Unitarian Universalist Church	
<a href="#">Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Santa Monica</a>	Unitarian Universalist Church	
<a href="#">Culver Community Church</a>	Christian Church	



<a href="#">Inglewood Community Church</a>	Christian Church	
<a href="#">Islamic Center of Southern California</a>	An Islamic center that works "to practice and share the values of Islam by providing religious, educational and recreational facilities for members of the public."	
<a href="#">Westside Jewish Community Center</a>	Jewish community center	
<a href="#">Accelerate Resilience LA</a>	They "engage in capacity building, cross-sector collaboration, and community engagement to advance multi-benefit approaches that are key to developing individual and collective climate resilience."	
<a href="#">Friends of Ballona</a>	Education and advocacy around protecting and restoring the Ballona Wetlands	
<a href="#">Kounkuey Design</a>	A community design and development non-profit.	
<a href="#">Friends of Griffith Park</a>	"promotes the enlightened stewardship of Griffith Park so it can survive and thrive well beyond the 21st century"	Fern Dell Restoration and Stormwater Capture Project (FY 22-23)
<a href="#">Neighborhood Housing Services of LA County</a>	"NHS strengthens communities by developing and maintaining quality affordable housing, creating and preserving affordable homeownership opportunities, supporting local leaders, providing financial education and increasing the financial independence of families and people in need."	
<a href="#">BRIDGE Housing Corporation</a>	"strengthens communities and improves the lives of its residents, beginning—but not ending—with affordable housing."	
<a href="#">PATH Ventures</a>	"We help people find permanent housing and provide case management, medical and mental healthcare, benefits advocacy, employment training, and other services to help them maintain their homes stably."	
<a href="#">West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation</a>	"West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation builds new apartment buildings and has renovated older ones that provide housing and services to lower and fixed-income people using environmentally sustainable materials and other components that protect the environment."	
<a href="#">ARLA</a>	"We engage in capacity building, cross-sector collaboration, and community engagement to advance multi-benefit approaches that are key to developing individual and collective climate resilience."	
<a href="#">City Fabrick</a>	City Fabrick is a nonprofit multi-disciplinary design studio reshaping communities in need through collaborative public-interest design, planning, policy development, and advocacy.	
<a href="#">California Coastkeeper Alliance</a>	Uses law, policy, science, and creative media to advance statewide policies and programs for healthy and clean waters.	



<a href="#">TRUST South LA</a>	"T.R.U.S.T. South LA is a community-based effort that works to stabilize the neighborhoods south of Downtown LA, where increased property values and rents have pushed out many long-term residents."	
<a href="#">Destination Crenshaw</a>	"Destination Crenshaw is a reparative development project and will be the largest Black public art project in the U.S. and quite possibly the world."	

## Neighborhood Councils or Associations

Name/Entity	Description	CSMB Projects Supported/Involved In
<a href="#">Hollywood United Neighborhood Council</a>	"The Hollywood United Neighborhood Council is dedicated to helping our community achieve its goals through information, engagement and empowerment."	
<a href="#">Los Feliz Improvement Association</a>	Addresses neighborhood issues for the Los Feliz neighborhood.	
<a href="#">Bel-Air Beverly Crest</a>	Neighborhood Council American Jewish University 15600 Mullholland Dr. Rm. 223 Los Angeles, CA 90077	
<a href="#">Central Hollywood</a>	Neighborhood Council Hollywood Neighborhood City Hall 6501 Fountain Ave. Hollywood, CA 90028	
<a href="#">Del Rey</a>	The Del Rey Neighborhood Council is an organization that is officially certified by the City of Los Angeles in October 2003 to increase our influence with City lawmakers and departments and to improve our community. The DRNC came about as a result of Los Angeles City Charter Reform and interested stakeholders in our community. The Board is allocated a budget of approximately \$37,000 by the City. (West Area Council District 11) Del Rey Square 11976 Culver Blvd. Del Rey, CA 90066	
Downtown Los Angeles	Neighborhood Council Palace Theater 630 S. Broadway L.A., CA 90014	
East Hollywood		
<a href="#">East Rampart Village Neighborhood Council</a>		





<a href="#">East Venice Neighborhood Council</a>		
<a href="#">Empowerment Congress Central</a>	<p>The Empowerment Congress Central Area NDC is a city-certified local group made up of people who live, work, own property or have some other connection to our neighborhood. Neighborhood Councils receive public funds of \$37,000 each year to support activities. This may include creating events and programs that respond to the unique needs of the community or advocating on behalf of the issues we care about such as crime, roads and streets, the creation of safe spaces.</p> <p>Barack Obama Global Preparation Academy 1700 W. 46th St. Los angeles, CA 900062</p>	
<a href="#">Empowerment Congress Southeast</a>	<p>Neighborhood Council. (South Area Council District: 8, 9 &amp; 15) New Prospect Baptist Church 10910 S. Broadway Los Angeles, CA 90061</p>	
<a href="#">Empowerment Congress Southwest</a>	<p>Neighborhood Council (South Area Council District 8) Mark Ridley-Thomas Constituent Center 8475 S. Vermont Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90044</p>	
<a href="#">Empowerment Congress West</a>	<p>ECWANDC is a self-governed, self-directed and independent organization empowered by the Los Angeles City Charter. This charter offers neighborhood councils a role in the City's decision-making process. (South Area Council Districts: 8 &amp; 10) Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza Community Room 3650 W. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90008</p>	
Empowerment Congress West		
Greater Wilshire		
<a href="#">Griffith Park Advisory Board</a>	Advisory board for Griffith Park	Provided a letter of support for the Fern Dell Restoration Project
Hollywood Hills West	<a href="https://www.hhwnc.org/">https://www.hhwnc.org/</a>	
Hollywood Studio District	<a href="https://www.hsdnc.org/">https://www.hsdnc.org/</a>	
<a href="#">Ladera Heights Community Enhancement Corporation</a>		
<a href="#">Los Feliz Neighborhood Association</a>	Neighborhood Association	Provided a letter of support for the Fern Dell Restoration Project



Mar Vista Community Council	<a href="https://www.marvista.org/">https://www.marvista.org/</a>	
MacArthur Park Neighborhood Council	<a href="https://macarthurparknc.org/">https://macarthurparknc.org/</a>	
<a href="#">Mesa Heights Community Council</a>	Community Council	Was engaged by the Angeles Mesa Green Infrastructure Corridor Project
Mid City Neighborhood Council	<a href="https://www.mincla.org/">https://www.mincla.org/</a>	
Mid City West Neighborhood Council	<a href="https://www.midcitywest.org/">https://www.midcitywest.org/</a>	
North Westwood	<a href="http://northwestwoodneighborhoodcouncil.org/">http://northwestwoodneighborhoodcouncil.org/</a>	
Olympic Park	<a href="http://opnc.org/">http://opnc.org/</a>	
P.I.C.O Neighborhood Council	<a href="http://www.piconc.com/">http://www.piconc.com/</a>	
Palms Neighborhood Council	<a href="http://palmsnc.la/">http://palmsnc.la/</a>	
Park Mesa Heights	<a href="https://parkmesaheights.org/">https://parkmesaheights.org/</a>	
Pico Union	<a href="https://www.picounionnc.org/">https://www.picounionnc.org/</a>	
SilverLake	<a href="https://www.silverlakenc.org/">https://www.silverlakenc.org/</a>	
South Central	<a href="https://southcentralnc.org/">https://southcentralnc.org/</a>	
South Robertson	<a href="https://www.soronc.org/">https://www.soronc.org/</a>	
United Neighborhoods	<a href="https://www.unnc.org/">https://www.unnc.org/</a>	
Venice	<a href="https://www.venicenc.org/">https://www.venicenc.org/</a>	
Voices	<a href="https://www.voicesnc.org/">https://www.voicesnc.org/</a>	
Westchester/Playa	<a href="https://ncwpdr.org/">https://ncwpdr.org/</a>	
West Adams	<a href="https://westadamsnc.org/">https://westadamsnc.org/</a>	
Westlake North Neighborhood Council	<a href="https://www.westlakenorthnc.org/">https://www.westlakenorthnc.org/</a>	



Westlake South Neighborhood Council	<a href="https://www.betterwestlakesouth.org/">https://www.betterwestlakesouth.org/</a>	
West Los Angeles	<a href="https://www.westlasawtelle.org/">https://www.westlasawtelle.org/</a>	
Westside	<a href="http://wncla.org/">http://wncla.org/</a>	
Westwood	<a href="https://wwnc.org/">https://wwnc.org/</a>	
Wilshire-Center-Koreatown	<a href="https://empowerla.org/wcknc/">https://empowerla.org/wcknc/</a>	
Ladera Heights Civic Association	<a href="https://www.laderaheights.org/">https://www.laderaheights.org/</a>	

## Homeowners Associations

Name
Baldwin Hills Estates Homeowners Association
Village Green Association
Baldwin Neighborhood Association
United Neighborhood Homeowner's Association
Cameo Woods Neighborhood Association
Tara Hills Homeowners' Association
Westside Village Neighborhood Association
Playa Pacific Homeowners Association
Cheviot Hills Homeowners Association
Beverlywood Homes Association
La Brea Hancock Homeowners
Elmwood Gardens Homeowners Association
Century Homeowners Association
Brentwood Homeowners Association
Cheviot Vista HOA
Barrington Homeowners Association
Villa Holt Homeowners Association

## City and County Governments

Name/Entity	Category	Description
<a href="#">City of Los Angeles Public Works</a>	City	Responsible for the design, construction, renovation and operation of public projects ranging from bridges to wastewater treatment plants and libraries; curbside collection and graffiti removal; and maintenance of streets, sidewalks, sewers, streetlights and street trees.
<a href="#">City of Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils</a>	City	Advisory bodies that advocate with City Hall on issues like homelessness, housing, land use, emergency preparedness, public safety, parks, transportation, and sustainability.
<a href="#">City of Los Angeles Parks and Recreation</a>	City	Oversees the city's parks and recreation.
<a href="#">City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power</a>	City	Delivers water and electricity to 4 million residents and businesses in Los Angeles.
<a href="#">City of Los Angeles City Planning</a>	City	Oversees city planning.
<a href="#">City of Los Angeles Office of Sustainability</a>	City	LA City's Sustainability Office is within the Department of General Services
<a href="#">LA Sanitation and Environment</a>	City	The City of LA's sanitation department which collects, cleans, and recycles solid and liquid waste in the City and surrounding communities.
<a href="#">City of Santa Monica Parks and Recreation</a>	City	Oversees the city's parks and recreation, including some community gardens.
<a href="#">City of Santa Monica Community Development Department</a>	City	Oversees community development issues, including zoning, permitting, transportation, plans & projects, economic development, and farmers markets.
<a href="#">City of Santa Monica Public Works</a>	City	Provides essential services to the community that includes water supply production, treatment, and collection; wastewater and stormwater collection; and collection and proper management of recoverable material resources including recycling of solid materials and household hazardous materials.



<a href="#">City of Santa Monica Office of Sustainability and the Environment</a>	City	Implements policy initiatives that promote local environmental, economic, and social sustainability and integrating resource management, conservation, and sustainability practices with ongoing City operations.
<a href="#">City of Beverly Hills Public Work</a>	City	Oversees infrastructure such as traffic and street lights, sidewalks, streets, the stormwater system, City facilities, parks, and trees. Also oversees the City's Sustainable Living program.
<a href="#">City of Beverly Hills Community Development Department</a>	City	Oversees city planning and community preservation.
<a href="#">City of Beverly Hills Parks and Recreation</a>	City	Oversees the City's parks and recreation.
<a href="#">City of Culver Planning Department</a>	City	Oversees city planning, permits, and city projects.
<a href="#">City of Culver City Parks and Recreation</a>	City	Oversees the City's parks and recreation.
<a href="#">City of Culver Public Works</a>	City	Oversees construction, maintenance, and city infrastructure, as well as a wide range of public services.
<a href="#">City of Culver City Environmental Programs &amp; Operations</a>	City	Champions green educational opportunities and initiatives to improve resource conservation, protect public health, prevent pollution, and divert solid waste. It is part of the Public Works Division.
<a href="#">City of West Hollywood Planning and Development Services</a>	City	Oversees city planning, including sustainability initiatives such as a Climate Action Plan and Green Buildings Program.
<a href="#">City of West Hollywood Public Works</a>	City	Oversees improvement projects, mobility, infrastructure in the public right-of-way, and environmental services.
<a href="#">City of West Hollywood Facilities and Recreation</a>	City	Oversees the City's facilities and recreation, including street maintenance and street tree maintenance, care and planting.



<a href="#">Department</a>		
<a href="#">City of Inglewood Public Works</a>	City	Oversees water, sewers, storm drains, city maintenance.
<a href="#">City of Inglewood Economic and Community Development</a>	City	Oversees city planning and economic development, including sustainability. .
<a href="#">City of Inglewood Parks and Rec</a>	City	Oversees the City's parks and recreation.
<a href="#">City of El Segundo Public Works</a>	City	Oversees the City's solid waste processing, parks, water, streets, and engineering divisions.
<a href="#">City of El Segundo Parks and Rec</a>	City	Oversees the City's parks and recreation.
<a href="#">City of El Segundo Development Services</a>	City	Oversees city planning.
<a href="#">LA Metro</a>	City	Offers transportation throughout LA County.
<a href="#">Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority</a>	County Commission	Works towards solutions to homelessness in LA County. Is governed by a board appointed by LA County and the City of LA.
<a href="#">California American Water Company</a>	Company	Investor-owned water utility.
<a href="#">Golden State Water Company</a>	Company	Investor-owned water utility.
<a href="#">Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts</a>	County	A public agency focused on converting waste into resources like recycled water, energy and recycled materials.
<a href="#">LA County Flood Control District</a>	County	Provides flood protection, water conservation, recreation, and aesthetic enhancement. Is the agency that administers the SCWP.
<a href="#">LA County Beaches and Harbors</a>	County	Oversees LA County beaches and Marina Del Rey.
<a href="#">LA County Public Works</a>	County	Oversees construction management, development services and emergency management, environmental services, public contracting and asset management, transportation, and water resources.
<a href="#">LA County Chief Sustainability Office</a>	County	Provides policy support and guidance for the Board of Supervisors, County Departments, the unincorporated areas, and the region to make communities healthier, more livable, economically stronger, more equitable, more resilient,



		and more sustainable.
<a href="#">LA County Public Library</a>	County	Public library system providing resources to communities throughout Los Angeles County
<a href="#">Inglewood Public Library</a>	City	Municipal library serving the Inglewood community
<a href="#">Santa Monica Public Library</a>	City	Municipal library serving the Santa Monica community
<a href="#">El Segundo Public Library</a>	City	Municipal library serving the El Segundo library
<a href="#">LA County Sanitation Districts</a>	County	A public agency focused on converting waste into resources like recycled water, energy and recycled materials
<a href="#">LA County Chief Sustainability Office</a>	County	Provides sustainability and equity policy support and guidance for the Board of Supervisors, County Departments, the unincorporated areas, and the region.
<a href="#">Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission</a>	City/County Commission	"The primary purpose of the Commission is to increase the acquisition and application of funding resources to the socioeconomic problems of American Indians in Los Angeles City and County"
<a href="#">WHAM Committee</a>	County	Committee of LA County agency representatives tasked with fulfilling the green infrastructure goals of Measures W, H, A, and M and the Our County Sustainability Plan. <a href="#">See recent report on WHAM Committee here</a> , and see <a href="#">WHAM workplan here</a> .





## State and Federal Agencies

Name/Entity	Category	Description
<a href="#">Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy</a>	Conservancy	Preserves over 75,000 acres of wilderness and urban parkland.
<a href="#">Caltrans Stormwater Program</a>	State Agency	Works to ensure that CalTrans complies with pollutant discharge regulations and provides policy, technical, and regulatory direction statewide.
<a href="#">US Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District</a>	Federal Agency	Role includes dredging waterways, creating storm damage reduction infrastructure, and incorporating environmental sustainability in building and maintaining infrastructure.
<a href="#">Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program</a>	State Agency	A DWR program designed to ensure the involvement of DACs in IRWMP planning efforts. Distributes Prop 1 grants to counties.
<a href="#">Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission</a>	State Commission	Works to "restore and enhance Santa Monica Bay through actions and partnerships that improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resources, mitigate the impacts of climate change and sea level rise, and protect Santa Monica Bay's benefits and values."
<a href="#">California Department of Fish and Wildlife</a>	State Agency	"The Mission of the Department of Fish and Wildlife is to manage California's diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend, for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public."
<a href="#">California Wildlife Conservation Board</a>	State Board	An independent Board with authority and funding to carry out an acquisition and development program for wildlife conservation.
<a href="#">California Department of Parks and Recreation</a>	State Department	Oversees 280 State Park units.
<a href="#">California Natural Resources Agency</a>	State Agency	Works to "to restore, protect and manage the state's natural, historical and cultural resources for current and future generations."
<a href="#">California State Coastal Conservancy</a>	Conservancy	Protects coastal resources in California and helps the public to enjoy them.
<a href="#">Baldwin Hills Conservancy</a>	Conservancy	Mission is to acquire open space and manage public lands within the Baldwin Hills area and to provide recreation, restoration and protection of wildlife habitat. Provides local assistance funding.
<a href="#">Urban Waters Federal Partnership</a>	Federal Program	"The Urban Waters Partnership reconnects urban communities, particularly those that are overburdened or economically distressed, with their waterways by improving coordination among federal agencies."

## Native American Tribes

Name/Entity
<a href="#">Gabrielino-Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians</a>
Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council
<a href="#">Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians</a>
<a href="#">Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation</a>
<a href="#">San Manuel Band of Mission Indians</a>
<a href="#">San Fernando Band of Mission Indians</a>

## Schools, Colleges and Other Educational Institutions

Name/Entity	Category	Description	CSMB Projects Submitted/Involved In
<a href="#">UCLA Department of Urban and Regional Planning</a>	Educational Institution	Offers a graduate degree in urban planning.	
<a href="#">UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs</a>	Educational Institution	Includes urban planning focus for undergraduate and graduate programs.	
<a href="#">LA Unified School District</a>	Educational Institution	School District	Venice High School (FY 20-21) Normandie Ave ES - DROPS and Paving (FY 21-22) Webster MS - DROPS (FY 21-22) Venice High School Comprehensive Modernization Project (FY 21-22)
<a href="#">Beverly Hills Unified School District</a>	Educational Institution	School District	
<a href="#">Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District</a>	Educational Institution	School District	



<a href="#">Inglewood Unified School District</a>	Educational Institution	School District	
<a href="#">El Segundo Unified School District</a>	Educational Institution	School District	
<a href="#">Culver City Unified School District</a>	Educational Institution	School District	
<a href="#">Los Angeles Community College District</a>	Educational Institution	Community college district. Colleges within the CSMB Watershed Area include Los Angeles City College and West Los Angeles College.	WLAC Soccer Field Basin Dry Well Project (FY 22-23)
<a href="#">Santa Monica College</a>	Educational Institution	Community College	
<a href="#">Antioch University</a>	Educational Institution	Private university in Culver City.	
<a href="#">Loyola Marymount University</a>	Educational Institution	Offers Climate and Solutions Certificate, Urban Studies undergraduate program, environmental science, environmental studies, and groundwater management certificate, water and wastewater treatment certificate, water quality management certificate	
<a href="#">University of Southern California</a>	Educational Institution	Offers graduate degree in Urban & Public Policy	
<a href="#">BuildLACCD</a>	Educational Institution	"BuildLACCD is the Los Angeles Community College District's \$9.5 billion Building Program is funded mainly by bonds approved by Los Angeles Voters"	
<a href="#">Aventuras Forest School</a>	Preschool	"Aventuras is the first preschool in Southern California to infuse language education into a nature school model. Our play-based emergent curriculum is meant to deepen children's empathy, natural love of learning, and engagement with the living environment."	Provided a letter of support for the Fern Dell Restoration Project
University of California Riverside	University	California State University	Microplastics in LA County Stormwater (FY 22-23)



## Councils of Government

Name/Entity	Category	Description	CSMB Projects Submitted/Involved In
<a href="#">Southern California Association of Governments</a>	JPA	Is a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) of local SoCal governments and agencies to address regional issues.	
<a href="#">Southern California Coastal Waters Research Project</a>	Research & Development Agency	"Develops and applies next-generation science to improve management of aquatic systems in Southern California and beyond." Governed and funded by 14 SoCal municipal and county agencies.	
<a href="#">Ballona Creek Watershed Management Group</a>		Consists of the permittees on the Ballona Creek WMP. The City of LA is the coordinating agency.	
<a href="#">Greater Los Angeles County Region - South Bay Subregion Integrated Watershed Management Plan</a>		The Greater Los Angeles County region has collaborated to develop with a focus on water resource management while creating a platform for future funding.	
<a href="#">Santa Monica Bay Jurisdictional Group 2 and 3 Enhanced Watershed Management Program</a>		Consists of the permittees on the Santa Monica Bay J2 & J3 WMP.	
<a href="#">Marina del Rey Watershed Management Group</a>		Consists of the permittees on the Marina del Rey WMP. LA County is the coordinating agency.	
<a href="#">Gateway Water Management Authority</a>		An agency made up of cities and agencies within the Gateway region of Southeastern Los Angeles County serving more than 2 million people. These entities and stakeholders are interested in developing an IRWMP.	Regional Pathogen Reduction Study (FY 22-23)



## Water Purveyors

Name/Entity	Category	Description
<a href="#">Water Replenishment District of Southern California</a>	Groundwater Agency	Covers a 420-square-mile region of southern Los Angeles County. Ensures a reliable supply of groundwater through the use of recycled water and stormwater capture.
<a href="#">West Basin Municipal Water District</a>	Water Agency	Is a wholesale water agency that provides imported drinking water to 17 cities and unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County.
<a href="#">Metropolitan Water District of Southern California</a>	Water Agency	Is "a regional wholesaler that provides water for 26 member public agencies to deliver - either directly or through their sub-agencies - to nearly 19 million people." (Includes West Basin)
<a href="#">Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant</a>	Water Reclamation Plant	Wastewater treatment facility owned by City of LA Sanitation and Environment.
City of LA	City	Publicly owned municipal utility that delivers water to residents.
City of Inglewood	City	Publicly owned municipal utility that delivers water to residents.
City of El Segundo	City	Publicly owned municipal utility that delivers water to residents.
City of Santa Monica	City	Publicly owned municipal utility that delivers water to residents.
<a href="#">LA County Waterworks District 80</a>	County	Supplies water to customers in the Marina Del Rey area.
City of Beverly Hills	City	Publicly owned municipal utility that delivers water to residents.



## Other Interested Parties

Name/Entity	Category	Description	CSMB Projects Submitted/Involved In
<a href="#">Corvias</a>	Company	Is an infrastructure company that works with municipalities on stormwater infrastructure.	Slauson Connect Clean Water Project (FY 21-22)
<a href="#">Geosyntec</a>	Company	An environmental/natural resources consulting engineering firm that works with public and private clients.	Slauson Connect Clean Water Project (FY 21-22)
<a href="#">Chevron Oil Refinery El Segundo</a>	Company	Oil refinery	
<a href="#">GreenPrint Partners</a>	Company	Green infrastructure delivery partner that helps cities achieve high-impact, community-driven stormwater solutions at scale.	Friendly Temple (FY 21-22)
<a href="#">SEITec</a>	Company	Water infrastructure engineering firm	Ballona Creek Dry Weather Flow Treatment Project (FY 21-22)  Community-Centered Optimization of Nature-Based BMPs Starting with the Gaffey Nature Center Facility (FY 22-23)
<a href="#">Thomas Safran &amp; Associates</a>	Company	"Thomas Safran & Associates has developed over 6,000 units of luxury, affordable and mixed-use rental housing in Southern California."	
<a href="#">Chelsea Investment Corporation</a>	Company	Finances and develops affordable housing	
<a href="#">Craftwater Engineering Inc.</a>	Company	Engineering consulting firm that works on stormwater capture & feasibility design, strategic watershed planning, and monitoring & reporting.	
<a href="#">Spherical Studio</a>	Company	Spherical is a strategic design and integrative research studio supporting projects regenerating the health and integrity of Earth's living systems based in the East Bay.	
<a href="#">California Stormwater Quality Association</a>	Professional Association	A "professional member association that advances sustainable stormwater management protection of California water resources."	
Century Housing		Century Housing Corporation is a mission-driven Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) supporting quality affordable home development throughout California.	
<a href="#">US Green Building Council - Los Angeles</a>	Professional Association	A professional member association focused sustainability in the Los Angeles region	



<a href="#">Mountain Gate Country Club</a>	Country Club		
<a href="#">Riviera Country Club</a>	Country Club		
<a href="#">Brentwood Country Club</a>	Country Club		
Bel Air Country Club	Country Club		
<a href="#">Los Angeles Country Club</a>	Country Club		
<a href="#">Hillcrest Country Club</a>	Country Club		
<a href="#">The Oaks Homeowners Association</a>	Homeowners Association	Homeowners Association	Gave a letter of support for the Fern Dell Restoration Project
<a href="#">Lipa Consulting</a>	Company	Consulting firm serving public and private clients in California specializing in due diligence, acquisition, financing, planning, engineering, construction management, entitlements, permits support and community relations.	
<a href="#">Blue Ocean Civil</a>	Company	Civil engineering firm that does stormwater management work.	
<a href="#">WSP</a>	Company	Engineering firm working on environmental, transportation, and coastal projects.	
<a href="#">Awen Solutions</a>	Company	"Awen Solutions Group is a full-service consulting and advisory firm that excels in providing innovative solutions for our clients' most complex challenges."	Involved in the WLAVA campus project.
<a href="#">TSA Housing</a>	Company	Housing development company	Involved in the WLAVA campus project.
<a href="#">Craddock Group</a>	Company	The Craddock Group specializes in capital planning and maximizing the value of real property. Veteran-owned and has worked with federal agencies.	Involved in the WLAVA campus project.
<a href="#">Concourse Group</a>	Company	A consulting firm working on real estate, energy, and operational infrastructure. Clients include federal, state, and local governments; universities and colleges; and housing authorities.	Involved in the WLAVA campus project.
<a href="#">Natural History Museum of LA County</a>	Museum	Natural History Museum	



## Chambers of Commerce

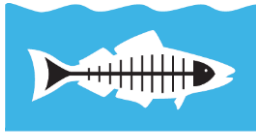
Name/Entity	Category	Description	CSMB Projects Submitted/Involved In
<a href="#">Venice Chamber of Commerce</a>	Chamber of Commerce	Chamber of commerce for the Venice Beach area.	
<a href="#">Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce</a>	Chamber of Commerce	Chamber of commerce.	
<a href="#">Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce</a>	Chamber of Commerce	Chamber of commerce.	
<a href="#">Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce</a>	Chamber of Commerce	Chamber of commerce that serves the LA County area.	
<a href="#">Culver City Chamber of Commerce</a>	Chamber of Commerce	Chamber of commerce.	
<a href="#">Century City Chamber of Commerce</a>	Chamber of Commerce	Chamber of commerce	
<a href="#">LA Latino Chamber of Commerce</a>	Chamber of Commerce	Chamber of Commerce representing Latino Businesses	
<a href="#">American Indian Chamber of Commerce of California</a>	Chamber of Commerce	Works "to provide opportunities for networking and support of American Indian business people in California."	

# South Santa Monica Bay's **Strategic Outreach & Engagement Plan**

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**Heal the Bay**, in partnership with Urbano Strategies

April 21, 2023



Heal the Bay



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## Acknowledgement of Indigenous Homelands

Heal the Bay acknowledges that the geographic area of the South Santa Monica Bay watershed encompasses the ancestral homelands of the Gabrielino Tongva, Ventureño Chumash, Gabrielino Kizh, and Fernandeano Tataviam Nations. We recognize that these Tribes are present today and are the original stewards of this land and these waters. This acknowledgement is given in respect of their lasting protection of this watershed area. We pay our respects to tribal elders past, present, and emerging.

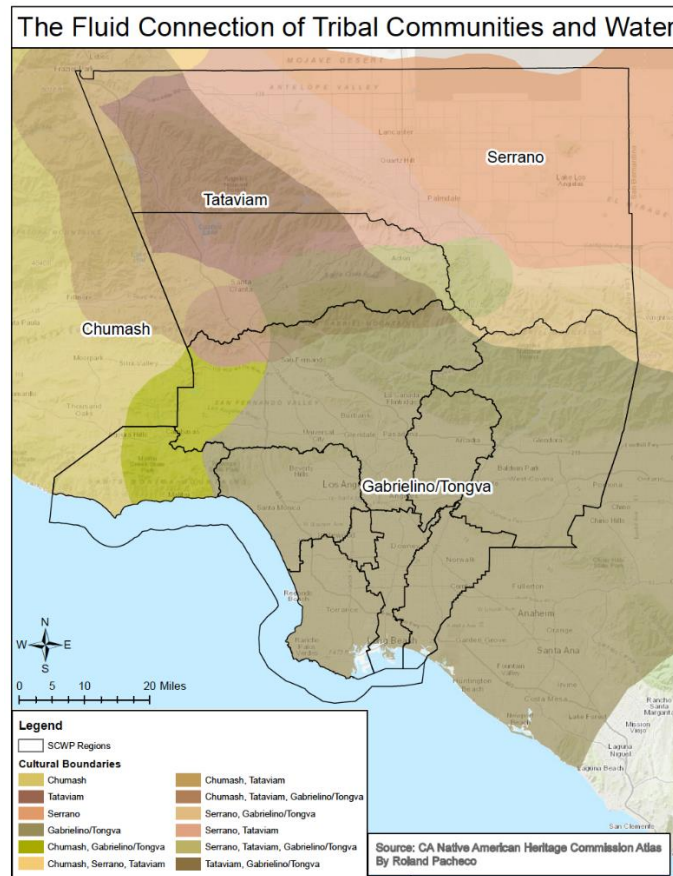


Figure 1: CA Native American Heritage Commission Atlas by Roland Pacheco.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Native American Heritage Commission Digital Atlas, <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=03512d83d12b4c3389281e3a0c25a78f&extent=-130.0858,31.7873,-109.6622,42.6447>

## Introduction

The Strategic Outreach & Engagement Plan (SOEP) is developed annually to identify the strategies in which the Watershed Coordinator will weave in the work of our nine tasks. The plan is part of Task 1, Facilitate Community Engagement in the Safe, Clean Water Program (Program), which is focused on outreach and engagement, both to public and private entities.

Outreach is the means by which we educate people about the Program and serve as the frontward facing representatives of the Program. Engagement is a nuanced difference, and one worth acknowledging. Engagement is a step further than outreach, in which those who have participated in outreach events (and some who haven't) actually become invested interested parties in the process and actively provide input and/or participate in Program elements themselves. They aren't mutually exclusive by any means, as outreach hopefully leads to more engagement with sustained relationships that are built and maintained over time. And those who are engaged can likely continue to learn more about the Program.

In the South Santa Monica Bay's SOEP, we include the five subject areas as outlined below:

1. Watershed Area Description
  - a. Physical Characteristics
    - i. Geologic and Geographic Characteristics
    - ii. Hydrologic Characteristics
    - iii. Structural Characteristics
  - b. Social Characteristics
  - c. Safe Clean Water Program Context
2. Interested Party Mapping
3. Vision for Success & Evaluation Criteria
4. Strategies
5. Collaborative Efforts



## Watershed Area Description

Heal the Bay (Nancy Shrodes) serves as the Watershed Coordinator for the South Santa Monica Bay (SSMB) Watershed Area, in partnership with Urbano Strategies (previously referred to as Jesse De La Cruz). Heal the Bay also serves as one of the Watershed Coordinators for the Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area with our partners, alongside SGA Marketing, and will be working in coordination with all of the Safe, Clean Water Program Watershed Coordinators to provide a coordinated regional approach.

### Physical Characteristics

#### *Geologic and Geographic Characteristics*

The SSMB Watershed Area is located in the southwestern section of the Los Angeles Basin, bound by the Pacific Ocean to the west and south, reaching as far north as Inglewood, and as far east as the 710 freeway (right before the Los Angeles River). The eastern border of the SSMB Watershed Area runs diagonally from northwest (Inglewood) to southeast (Carson/Long Beach), following the Newport-Inglewood Uplift<sup>2</sup>, before dropping south into the San Pedro Bay through the L.A. Harbor (Figure 2).



**Figure 2:** South Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area.

Underlying geology varies significantly between the Palos Verdes Hills and the rest of the SSMB Watershed Area. The Palos Verdes Hills area consists primarily of consolidated deposits made up of older bedrock of marine origin (sandstone, siltstone, mudstone, diatomite, and shale), with volcanic

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<sup>2</sup> The Newport-Inglewood Uplift is a discontinuous row of hills from the Santa Monica Mountains southeast to Orange County, formed by a major structural fault, which also acts as a partial barrier to groundwater flow between the Central and West Coast Groundwater Basins.

outcroppings.<sup>3 4</sup> The geologic structure of the Palos Verdes Hills makes this area vulnerable to frequent and sometimes destructive landslides, particularly when excess subsurface water facilitates movement along clay layers, referred to as slide surfaces. Excess subsurface water comes from over-irrigation, installation of pools or septic systems, infiltration of large amounts of rainwater, etc. Wave action can also exacerbate this effect along the coastline.<sup>5</sup>

The rest of the SSMB Watershed Area consists primarily of younger unconsolidated deposits, such as the San Pedro Formation which is characterized mainly by sand and gravel. However, this permeable underlying geology is not easily accessible via the surface, as it is confined by less permeable clay layers of various thickness.<sup>6</sup>

### *Hydrologic Characteristics*

The SSMB Watershed Area includes the Dominguez Channel Watershed and the southern coastal portion of the Ballona Creek Watershed. Watershed Management Programs within this area (under the current 2012 Los Angeles County MS4 Permit) include the Santa Monica Bay Jurisdictions 2&3 Watershed Management Group, the Dominguez Channel Watershed Management Group, the Beach Cities Watershed Management Group, and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Watershed Management Group, as well as individual Watershed Management Programs for the Cities of Gardena and Rolling Hills. Watershed Management Programs may be adjusted over the next year with the adoption of the new 2021 Regional MS4 Permit.

Open stormwater channels are limited in the SSMB Watershed Area, and the majority are located in the northeast section of the Watershed Area within the Dominguez Channel Watershed. Many portions of these open stormwater channels are listed as impaired under the CA State 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies, as are most of the shorelines along the Palos Verdes Peninsula, the Santa Monica Bay, and the Los Angeles Harbor.

The bedrock underlying the Palos Verdes Hills means that there is no groundwater aquifer directly under this area, hindering opportunities for direct infiltration of stormwater. However, along the northeast border between the Palos Verdes Hills and the rest of the SSMB Watershed Area, the hillside sloping away from the coastline allows for some local recharge when it rains.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> United States Geological Survey and Water Replenishment District of Southern California. Water-Resources Investigations Report 03-4065: Geohydrology, Geochemistry, and Ground-Water Simulation-Optimization of the Central and West Coast Basins, Los Angeles County, California. 2003. Available at: <https://pubs.usgs.gov/wri/wrir034065/wrir034065.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> United States Department of the Interior. Geology, Hydrology, and Chemical Character of Ground Waters in the Torrance-Santa Monica Area, California. 1959. Available at: <https://pubs.usgs.gov/wsp/1461/report.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> California State University, Dominguez Hills. Geology of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Los Angeles CA. 2021. <https://www.csudh.edu/earth/palos-verdes>

<sup>6</sup> United States Geological Survey and Association of American State Geologists. National Geologic Map Database. Geologic Map of the Palos Verdes Peninsula and Vicinity. 1999. Available at: [https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/Prodesc/proddesc\\_71706.htm](https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/Prodesc/proddesc_71706.htm)

<sup>7</sup> United States Geological Survey and Water Replenishment District of Southern California. Water-Resources Investigations Report 03-4065: Geohydrology, Geochemistry, and Ground-Water Simulation-Optimization of the



The unconsolidated sediments in the rest of the SSMB Watershed Area provide a series of aquifer systems below the surface, known collectively as the West Coast Groundwater Basin. In the northwest, this groundwater flows west to the Santa Monica Bay; to the southeast, this groundwater flows south to the San Pedro Bay. This groundwater aquifer is subject to seawater intrusion as fresh groundwater is pumped out for use and as sea levels rise. In response, seawater intrusion barriers wells have been placed along the southern portion of the Santa Monica Bay from El Segundo down to the Palos Verdes Hills (the West Coast Basin Barrier Project), and along the lower portion of the Dominguez Channel (the Dominguez Gap Barrier Project).<sup>8</sup>

Other water management strategies used in this area to maintain the groundwater reservoir have been through replenishment with an increase in both imported and reclaimed water. The soils above the West Coast Groundwater Basin are not very permeable, and the area is heavily covered with impermeable surfaces. Most of the replenishment occurs through injection wells by the Water Master of the adjudicated basin, the Water Replenishment District, or from underground flow from the Central Coast Groundwater Basin to the north.<sup>9</sup> And most aquifers in the region are confined aquifers,<sup>10</sup> posing a challenge to increasing water supply via natural infiltration regionally. Groundwater quality in this area is generally good, with a few slightly elevated concentrations of boron, uranium, sulfate, total dissolved solids, chloride, iron, manganese, and perchlorate.<sup>11</sup>

### *Structural Characteristics*

Land use is variable throughout the SSMB Watershed Area, though the majority is considered built area.<sup>12</sup> There is a high degree of residential land use throughout the Watershed Area, as well as land use associated with schools, government buildings, and office and retail space.

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Central and West Coast Basins, Los Angeles County, California. 2003. Available at: <https://pubs.usgs.gov/wri/wrir034065/wrir034065.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> United States Geological Survey and Water Replenishment District of Southern California. Water-Resources Investigations Report 03-4065: Geohydrology, Geochemistry, and Ground-Water Simulation-Optimization of the Central and West Coast Basins, Los Angeles County, California. 2003. Available at: <https://pubs.usgs.gov/wri/wrir034065/wrir034065.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> West Coast Basin Watermaster Report 2019. Available at: [https://www.wrd.org/sites/pr/files/2019\\_wcb\\_watermaster\\_report\\_final.pdf](https://www.wrd.org/sites/pr/files/2019_wcb_watermaster_report_final.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> WRD Technical Bulletin Volume 1, Fall 2004. Available at: <https://www.wrd.org/sites/pr/files/TB1%20-%20An%20Introduction%20to%20the%20Hydrogeology%20of%20the%20Central%20and%20West%20Coast%20Basins.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> United States Department of the Interior, United States Geological Survey, and California State WaterResources Control Board. Scientific Investigations Report 2012–5048: Status of Groundwater Quality in the Coastal Los Angeles Basin, 2006: California GAMA Priority Basin Project. 2012. Available at: <https://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2012/5048/pdf/sir20125048.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> Esri 10-Meter Land Cover. 2020. Available at: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?layers=d6642f8a4f6d4685a24ae2dc0c73d4ac>

The Palos Verdes Hills area does include significant recreational open space, and is in fact considered to have a very low to moderate need for park space according to the LA County Park Needs Assessment.<sup>13</sup> However, the rest of the SSMB Watershed Area, particularly within the inland areas (in and around the Cities of Hawthorne, Torrance and Carson) lack natural areas, parks, and open space. The majority of this area is identified as high or very high need under the Park Needs Assessment. Land use in these areas also include significant industry and utility land use, as well as Caltrans right of way.

### Social Characteristics

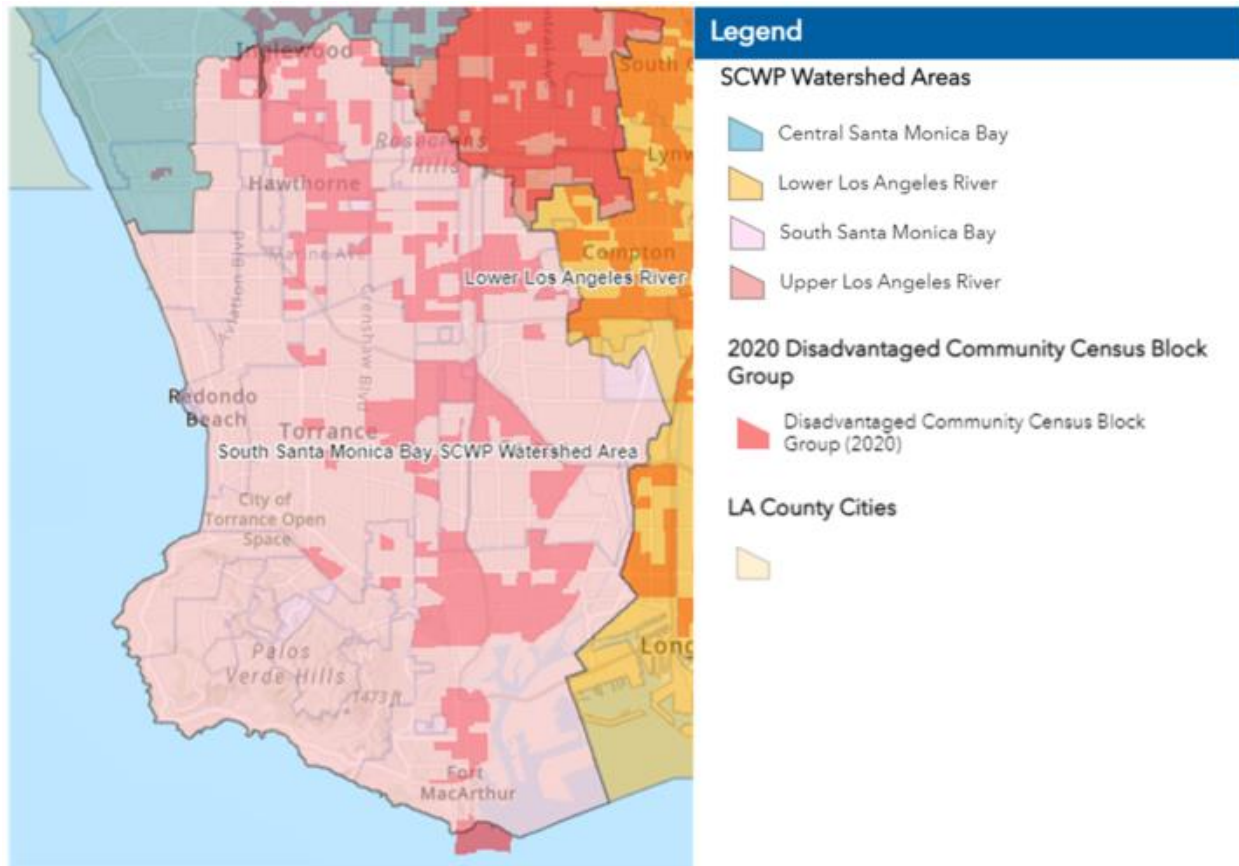
The SSMB Watershed Area has very diverse social characteristics, representative of both wealth and poverty, as well as ethnic diversity and ethnic homogeneity. The watershed represents disparity across incomes and lived experience. The coastal communities tend to represent more affluent residents according to median household incomes. Racially, these communities are majority white, and according to CalEnviroScreen experience less environmental and health burdens. Moving inland, the population has a lower median household income, higher rates of poverty, and a more ethnically diverse population. Moving from the south, through central, and to the northeast of the watershed, more of the population experiences increased environmental and health burdens, as defined by CalEnviroScreen, correlating with the land use described earlier in the same area (industrial, lack of park space, etc.). The data below illustrates the diversity and challenges present in the watershed.

- Roughly 4,445 people who are unhoused live in the Watershed Area ([Data \(lahsa.org\)](#), Service Planning Area 8)
- Roughly a fourth of the SSMB Watershed Area includes disadvantaged communities (often referred to as DAC), represented in the central and northeast areas in the watershed (Figure 3).<sup>14</sup> These underrepresented and historically underserved communities referred to as DAC are described in the ordinance as “a Census Block Group that has an annual median household income of less than eighty percent (80%) of the Statewide annual median household income (as defined in Water Code section 79505.5).”

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<sup>13</sup> Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Parks & Recreation Needs Assessment. Los Angeles County Department of Parks & Recreation. 2016. Available at: <https://tpc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=6f8962df9e9446babb35f28fa8d1c23a>

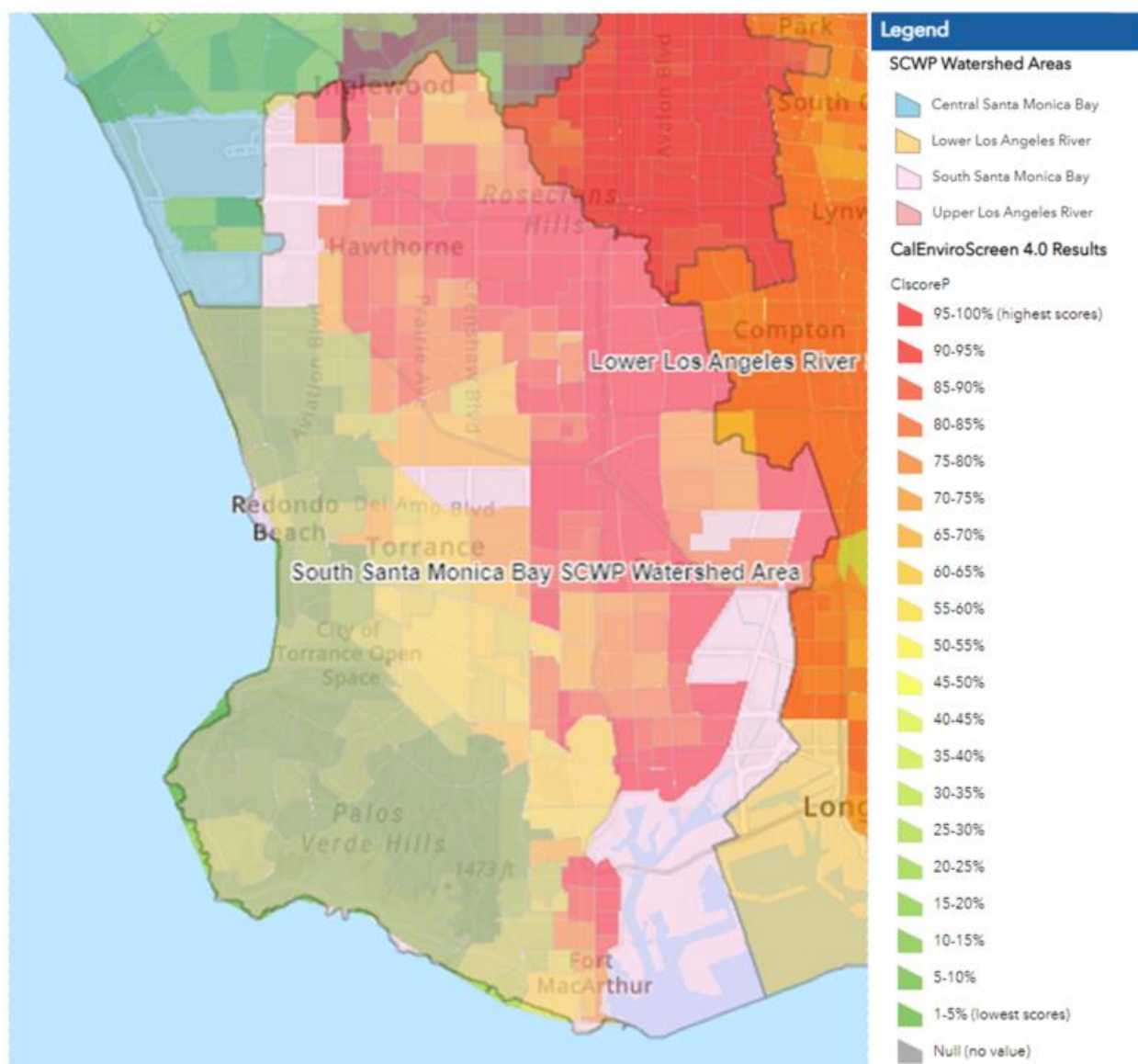
<sup>14</sup> Safe Clean Water Program Spatial Data Library. Available at: <https://stantec.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=35df45808fe6470a8eff1075967c2156>



**Figure 3:** A visual representation of DAC in the SSMB Watershed Area, characterized by the dark pink areas in this map from the Safe, Clean Water Spatial Data Library.

- CalEnviroScreen scores get consistently worse from SW to NE, with significant overlap between poorer scores and DAC designation. There are also higher percentages of younger residents and higher rates for reported cases of diabetes in these more impacted areas (Figure 4).<sup>15</sup>

<sup>15</sup> Safe Clean Water Program Spatial Data Library, CalEnviroScreen 4.0. Available at: <https://stantec.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=35df45808fe6470a8eff1075967c2156>



**Figure 4:** A visual representation of CalEnviroScreen SSMB Watershed Area, showing the varying degrees of environmental burdens and public health concerns within many of the communities in the watershed. As demonstrated by the legend to the right, the communities with the highest environmental and health burdens are shown in red, with the least burdened communities in green (the darker the green, the healthier the environment is for residents). Map sourced from the Safe, Clean Water Program Spatial Data Library.

- Demographic data ranges widely within the SSMB Watershed Area, with some visible disparities.<sup>16</sup> Overall, coastal areas have populations that are more white, have higher median household incomes, and lower poverty rates. In inland communities, there is a higher range of

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Census. Note, “the Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty.” Available at <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US/PST045219>

other races/ethnicities represented, including Black, Asian, and Hispanic/Latino populations. Many of these inland communities have higher poverty rates and lower median household incomes, compared to coastal areas. Excluding cities that are split between watersheds (including County unincorporated, Compton, El Segundo, Inglewood, and the City of L.A.), the following demographic data shows a snapshot of the ranges across the Watershed Area:

- Hawthorne has the highest poverty rate at 16%, compared to the lowest rate in Rolling Hills Estates at 1.8%
- Palos Verdes Estates has the highest median household income at \$202,596, as compared to the lowest in Hawthorne at \$63,847 (all in 2021 dollars, between 2017-2021)
- For race/ethnicity, the highest percentages by city are as follows:
  - 78% of Hermosa residents are white
  - 26.8% of Hawthorne residents are Black (although part of Inglewood is in this watershed and 40.9% of its residents are Black)
  - 37.1% of Torrance residents are Asian
  - 64.8% of Lawndale residents are Hispanic/Latino

#### Safe, Clean Water Program Context

The SSMB Watershed Area is allocated 12.50% of Annual Regional Program Funds, which in the 2021-22 fiscal year was \$17.5 million, to fund regional projects through annual Stormwater Investment Plans that achieve the three overarching goals of the Safe, Clean Water Program: improving water quality, increasing water supply, and investing in local community benefits.

There are significant challenges in the SSMB Watershed Area that must be addressed during the ongoing implementation of the Safe, Clean Water Program, including the high percentage of space designated as built area, and specifically areas designated for industrial land use. However, this challenge also creates opportunities for new project proponents, partnerships, and collaboration moving forward. This may include schools looking to comply with Phase II MS4 Permit requirements, public-private partnerships between municipalities and industry, and collaborations between private landowners or municipalities and Caltrans wherever such land uses intersect.

Additional challenges must also be considered, including infiltration restrictions in the Palos Verdes Hills area to make the best use of our local water while also avoiding the potential to induce landslides in this area. The Program can instead support projects that increase groundwater recharge into the West Coast Groundwater Basin or increase water supply with recycled water in other areas within the SSMB Watershed Area using captured stormwater. This would simultaneously reduce our reliance on imported water to become more water self-sufficient. Increased water supply could be enhanced by bringing water agencies into the planning and implementation of infrastructure projects (e.g., West Basin, WRD, LA Sanitation). Regional collaboration will be necessary to achieve and maintain good groundwater quality to ensure that the stormwater that is captured, cleaned, and infiltrated can reliably and safely contribute to municipal water supply for future beneficial use.



There are also significant opportunities to invest in SSMB communities, particularly in areas designated as disadvantaged communities under the Safe, Clean Water Program, to provide park space where it is needed most, improve scores for the CalEnviroScreen and Heat Island indexes, and improve the quality of our surface waters. All of these actions together will help to improve the public health and climate resiliency of our communities.

To date, there have been thirteen infrastructure projects submitted to the SSMB WASC that were identified as projects serving disadvantaged communities, ten of which were funded (FY2020-2024). This is including the most recent Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP) that was approved by the WASC in February 2023 and is awaiting approval by the Board of Supervisors. This reveals that the Safe, Clean Water Program is upholding the policy of ensuring that low income census tracts are receiving the appropriate investment of funds to achieve needed benefits. As the threshold is currently defined, each watershed is meeting or exceeding the 110% goal. Many of these projects are self-identified as serving these communities by the project proponents, which may be overly represented/over-reported, as discussed in great detail in the recent Metrics and Monitoring Study (MMS) white paper titled *Measuring Community Engagement and Disadvantaged Community Benefits for Equitable Impact in the Safe Clean Water Program* (Figure 5).<sup>17</sup>

#### Appendix C: Further Details on Community Investment Benefits and Disadvantaged Community Benefits Claimed in SCWP Analysis

Watershed	110% Funding Threshold	Claimed DAC Benefit (may or may not be located there)	Located Physically Within a DAC
Central Santa Monica Bay	53%	58%	50%
Lower Los Angeles River	78%	100%	58%
Lower San Gabriel River	23%	81%	4%
North Santa Monica Bay	0%	0%	0%
Rio Hondo	41%	95%	18%
Santa Clara River	11%	84%	0%
South Santa Monica Bay	39%	68%	17%
Upper Los Angeles River	54%	92%	53%
Upper San Gabriel River	24%	62%	30%

**Figure 5:** Disadvantaged community benefits can come from a project located directly in a DAC, or one which “provides direct benefits to” a DAC. This chart from the MMS white paper appendix demonstrates that although 68% of projects funded in the SSMB have claimed DAC benefits, only 17% are physically located in a DAC as defined by the ordinance using census data referenced in Figure 3. The chart demonstrates how there might be inconsistencies among watershed areas in how the benefit is applied and the nature of self-identification that could lead to over-reporting.

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<sup>17</sup> UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation & Stantec. (2022, August). *Measuring Community Engagement and Disadvantaged Community Benefits for Equitable Impact in the Safe Clean Water Program*. Available at <https://innovation.luskin.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Equity-in-Stormwater-Investments.pdf>

## Interested Party Mapping

Heal the Bay will continue to build upon and engage a list of interested parties in the South Santa Monica Bay. The various categories of our interested parties list are outlined in Strategy 1 within the template found in our Strategy section, starting on page 14. The interested party categories identified in the SSMB are as follows:

- NGOs, CBOs
- Coalition Partners
- Municipal and LA County Parks & Rec
- Community Services
- Indigenous Leaders and Tribal Governments
- Educational Institutions & School Districts
- School Leadership & PTAs
- City and County Departments
- City and Neighborhood Council Districts
- State and Federal Agencies
- Libraries, Museums, Zoos, and Aquariums
- Faith-Based Institutions
- Community Member Champions
- South Bay Integrated Regional Management (IRWM) Subcommittee
- Watershed Management Plans/Programs (WMPs)
- South Bay Cities Council of Governments (COG)
- Chambers of Commerce
- Businesses
- Non-traditional Partners
- Municipal and County SCWP contacts
- Communities who experience linguistic isolation

**The key to party mapping:** We are building an all-inclusive list and are striving to be the connective tissue between the interested parties and the work of the Safe, Clean Water Program. We recognize that building authentic relationships takes time, and that in this first year we may have to be selective as to where we have capacity to build these genuine relationships within the exhaustive list we are building.





## Vision for Success & Evaluation Criteria

Our vision for success is a Plan that ensures all approved projects are aligned with local priorities and needs, have equitable access and opportunity (from a municipal and community perspective), and ultimately meet all four missions of the Safe, Clean Water Program.

Those four identified missions are:

### **CAPTURE IT**

Increase our yearly collection of rainwater to supply water for millions of people in L.A. County.

### **CLEAN IT**

Reduce the volume of trash before it reaches our beaches and coastal waters.

### **MAKE IT SAFE**

Help eliminate the toxins, fertilizers, bacteria, plastics, metals from our cars, and chemicals that flow into the ocean.

### **MAKE IT FOR EVERYONE**

Protect creeks and streams, build parks, liven up concrete landscapes, and create green space for our communities.<sup>18</sup>

Although natural infiltration can be challenging in the SSMB Watershed Area, there are areas where it should be explored. There are still opportunities to capture stormwater and clean it up so that it can be used in purple pipe systems or as potential source-water for some of the pre-existing groundwater infiltration wells. And these projects can help make the water safe by reducing flood risk and utilizing tactics in infrastructure projects to improve water quality for healthier waterways and ocean. Using L.A. County's Park Needs Assessment as a guide, there are also plenty of opportunities for collaboration to liven up concrete landscapes and create green spaces.

We interviewed most SSMB Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC) members to help us inform the development of this Plan. To expand on the last mission, there was a common theme and desire among WASC members to see more community driven projects. We want to ensure that any entity who wants to submit a project can and will have a fair shot, using the Watershed Coordinator as a resource, particularly when these entities are made aware of the program elements such as the Technical Resources Program (TRP). This will help achieve equitable access.

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<sup>18</sup> The Vision, Mission, and Goals as defined by the Safe, Clean Water Program on its website: <https://safecleanwaterla.org/about/vision-mission-goals/>

The Plan uses evaluation criteria that we feel best exemplifies success within each category. We ensured that the criteria used were measurable and realistic metrics. The extensive scope of the tactics will be assessed annually, and we have designed it as such so that the evaluation metrics can inform how best to design next year's Plan. This builds a two way street where strategy tactics inform metrics, and vice versa.



## Strategies

This section reviews the five different strategies as identified by Stantec, with the tactics and descriptions that we intend to use to achieve each strategy. Evaluation metrics are also included to measure our effectiveness.

### Overall Strategy Objectives

Strategies achieve one of the three objectives (ordered by priority and budget allocation):

1. **Connect** with the greater community
2. **Engage** to better understand community needs
3. **Educate** about the Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) elements and projects

### SOEP Template Note on Evaluation

The evaluation metrics will demonstrate progress towards accomplishing our vision through these five strategies. We included very specific criteria when measurement is possible, and more general criteria when the measurement is more qualitative.

There are several overlapping ideas and goals within each strategy section. Note that although something like “Tabling” may be mentioned several times where relevant, there will only be one metric of “number of events attended” that is reported back to the WASC.

Different metrics are used for different interested party groups based on what is most reflective of progress and/or feasible.

## 1. ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS, MUNICIPALITIES, COMMUNITY GROUPS

### TACTIC FOCUS: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

<b>A. Power Mapping-Database of interested parties list and relationship building with:</b>	<p><i>Identify and connect with various interested parties, including NGOs, CBOs, Coalitions, Municipal and LA County Parks &amp; Rec, Community Services, Indigenous Leaders and Tribal Governments, Educational Institutions, School Districts, School Leadership, PTAs, City and County Departments, City and Neighborhood Council Districts, State and Federal Agencies, Libraries, Museums, Zoos, Aquariums, Faith-Based Institutions, Community Champions, South Bay Integrated Regional Management (IRWM) Subcommittee, Watershed Management Plans/Programs (WMPs), South Bay Cities Council of Governments (COG), Chambers of Commerce, Businesses, Non-traditional Partners, Municipal and County SCWP contacts, and Communities who experience linguistic isolation.</i></p> <p><i>We will continue to connect with and grow our power map of the watershed.</i></p> <p><i>The database we are using for our power map is Salesforce's Project Management Module so the data is well organized, easily queried, and protected.</i></p>			Metric used:
	Total interested parties added to power map:			# of contacts
	Total meetings in period:			# held or attended
<b>B. Communication Tactics</b>	<p><i>Utilize Heal the Bay's existing staff and programming to reach SSMB constituents, including volunteer orientation, Speakers Bureau presentations, and beach cleanups (Nothin' But Sand monthly cleanups and annual Coastal Cleanup Day). Partner Urbano Strategies programming includes one-on-one meetings, group meetings, in person/virtual meetings, door-to-door outreach, online input, phone banking and text banking outreach (as listed below in section 2 and 5).</i></p>			
	Targeted Outreach to Cities	Conduct targeted outreach to cities currently engaged in the SCWP to better understand community specific challenges and identify opportunities for collaboration.		# of cities contacted
<b>C. Communication Materials</b>	Informational One Pager	Distribute one-page flyers that describes generic program elements and how to get involved. Ensure that it is culturally relevant and multilingual. Use colloquial and accessible language to target local residents. Staff will share outreach materials with local politicians and organizations to share with constituents/residents.	SCWP materials are provided and available to the public for all events and outreach activities.	
	Partner sharing and relationship building	Share fact sheets and social posts created that can be shared by NGO/CBO partners, and any other constituents that want to share with their networks. Ensure that it is culturally relevant and multilingual.		
	Quarterly Newsletter	Launch a watershed area specific newsletter written by Nancy on Heal the Bay's Safe, Clean Water Program with signups through landing webpage or at pop-up and tabling events.		# quarterly newsletters
				# people reached

	Kid's Stormwater Activity Book	Distribute colorful, interactive kid's activity book that educates about stormwater pollution.	Kid's Stormwater Activity Books are provided and available to the public for all events and outreach activities.	
	Heal the Bay Landing Page	Ensure landing page is maintained, updated, and available to the public. Share via QR codes, at outreach events, and with partners. Provide opportunities for visitors to connect and provide feedback with our community survey ( <a href="http://www.healthebay.org/safecleanwater">www.healthebay.org/safecleanwater</a> ).	Maintained and available to the public.	
	Presentation Materials	Continue to develop presentations tailored to specific audiences.		

2. SOLICIT INPUT, CONNECT TO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITIES				
TACTIC FOCUS: PROJECT CONCEPT IDENTIFICATION + FUNDING RESOURCE RESEARCH (i.e., aligning community needs with projects)				Metric used:
<b>A. Outreach, Input Solicitation, and Community Engagement</b>	Tabling at Community Fairs and Festivals	Identify community-wide events/resource fairs where HtB/partner staff and volunteers can table to promote the project and increase understanding of and awareness about the SCWP - including building a community of advocates that can help spread the word. Solicit input on projects and connect people to TRP, workforce development, low-income, and senior assistance programs. Also table at Heal the Bay Nothin' But Sand cleanups and Coastal Cleanup Day (where possible) within the watershed.		# tabling events (multi-day events are counted separately for each day)
	Door-To-Door Outreach	Educate and motivate homeowners and renters within the SSMB watershed area on program offerings. Reach local residents at their homes by encouraging participation in SCWP activities and program elements. Staff will use flyers and surveys to collect feedback.		# doors knocked
	Community Survey Engagement	Distribute a digital and physical survey to solicit community input, particularly in underserved areas. Ensure that it is culturally relevant and multilingual.		Name of each community reached (i.e. Compton)  # surveys completed
	Phone/Text Banking Outreach	Educate and motivate homeowners and renters within the SSMB watershed area on program offerings. Reach local residents via phone by encouraging participation in SCWP activities. Staff will use surveys to collect feedback.		# phone numbers called/texted
<b>B. Funding Research</b>	Attend Webinars, Sign up for Listservs, Independent Research	Research funding opportunities, include in quarterly reports, and share with project proponents when applicable.		# funding webinars attended
	Engage with ongoing SCWP projects to monitor funding progress and outreach needs	Connect with SCWP project leads to check in on any gaps in funding and provide guidance on outreach activities.		# of current projects reached

<b>C. Project Concept Identification and Realization</b>	Participate in Technical Resources Program (TRP)	Assist in TRP as necessary, bring other voices in the room (connect the dots as matchmaker), and encourage other entities to apply.	# TRP meetings attended
	Engage with Potential Applicants	Engage with potential applicants via email, phone, or meeting to discuss projects, best practices, and offer advice.	# potential project proponents connected with
	Create Promising Practices TRP slide deck	Utilize experience from the last few years of funding to create a slide deck about promising practice for potential TRP applicants, incorporating all of the items need in advance of applying. This will be tailored to a few different specific audiences (individuals/general public, NGOs, CBOs, schools, etc.)	Deck created (and used in metric above)

### 3. ENSURE DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES ARE SHARED WITH THE DISTRICT AND WASC

#### TACTIC FOCUS: DOCUMENTATION OF EQUITABLE COMMUNITY NEEDS + PERSPECTIVES

<b>A. Public Awareness</b>	Social Media Campaign	Strategically leveraging our collective social media platforms. Launch a culturally relevant social media campaign targeting local communities within the SSMB to improve knowledge and attitudes about the area and the SCWP. Solicit input and ensure diverse perspectives being shared with the WASC through community champions and the Watershed Coordinator. Empower local residents to share information among their networks.	Visible on our platforms Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.
	Community Education	Conduct pop-up engagement/sidewalk engagement(s) to educate the general public, garner support, and improve knowledge and awareness of the South Santa Monica Bay watershed. Motivate and enable Angelenos to take action and to participate in these spaces, like WASC meetings. Build public confidence and help to ensure Angelenos are informed of program findings and processes. Raise the visibility and understanding of the Safe Clean Water Program and why it matters to Angelenos at a household level. Aforementioned surveys as well as educational efforts throughout the watershed area will capture and inform diverse perspectives.	Metrics captured in 2.A. Outreach, Input Solicitation, and Community Engagement
	Indigenous Perspective	Uplift indigenous voices in outreach and engagement activities to share perspectives and increase awareness/public discourse.	
<b>B. Community Participation</b>	Identify Barriers for Equitable Access to Public Participation and Ensure Community Voices are Heard	Identify community champions that are available to give public comment and speak directly to the WASC. As there are barriers to access (in the middle of the day, no translation services, etc.), the Watershed Coordinator will distill the main input received from community engagement efforts and bring it to the WASC meetings. This could be in the form of direct quotes, video testimony, etc. Another possibility to removing barriers to access could include, for example, the WC recommending the County offer technical assistance for remote participation or potentially identifying alternative times for WASC members/the District to meet with community representatives.	Share at WASC meetings as relevant.



#### 4. IDENTIFY AND ENSURE THE INVOLVEMENT OF MEMBERS OF DISADVANTAGED AND UNDERREPRESENTED COMMUNITIES

TACTIC FOCUS : SOLICITATION OF COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES (i.e., people not covered in stakeholder tactic)				Metric used:
<b>A. Public Awareness + Potential Project Solicitation</b>	On-the-Ground Grassroots Efforts	Improve engagement with “difficult-to-reach” audiences by engaging with them in their respective environments. Create spaces for collaboration and relationship-building with activities such as coffee chats, walking meetings, group events, site tours. Present educational activities to community gardens: Queen Park Learning Garden, Lennox Community Garden, San Pedro Community Garden, & Harbor City Community Garden.	Metrics captured elsewhere.	
	Collaborations	Sharing of outreach resources to enable replication and dissemination of information to be streamlined by residents to residents. Collaborate on community engagement opportunities.	We shared out all of our virtual assets prior to events with partners.	
	School Leadership Education & Outreach	Outreach will be conducted to local school districts (including Lennox Unified, Inglewood Unified, San Pedro Unified, LAUSD, for example) to present to PTA Groups and existing meetings/activities. Staff will identify teachers to share education material that can be incorporated into school curriculum and/or student learning outcomes.		# of meetings/ events
	Targeted Outreach to Open Space Managers	Conduct targeted outreach to city departments and open space agencies not currently engaged in the SCWP in underserved communities to raise awareness, better understand community specific challenges, and identify opportunities for collaboration.		# of entities reached
<b>B. Information Sharing</b>	Share Findings at WASC Meetings	Ensure that information gathered from the tactics above are shared at WASC meetings so that underrepresented community voices are heard by committee members and the public.	See Reporting Back in section 5.	

## 5. ENSURE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING ABOUT WATERSHED MANAGEMENT, ECOLOGICAL, AND COMMUNITY ISSUES

TACTIC FOCUS: PUBLIC AWARENESS + EDUCATION (contractually defined as 4 outreach and 2 watershed wide education outreach events)				Metric used:
<b>A. Education</b>	Educational Presentations	Through Heal the Bay's Speakers Bureau program, ensure that SCWP slides are incorporated in our Ocean Pollution and Know the Flow presentations. Also disseminate our newest presentation offering that is all about the SCWP, including program elements and opportunities.		# presentations
				# people in audience
				# presentations in SSMB
				# people in audience in SSMB
				# of new SCWP-specific presentations
	Educational Presentations Trainings	Most lectures by Heal the Bay's Speakers Bureau program are given by volunteers. Nancy personally trained all Speakers Bureau volunteers about the Safe, Clean Water Program and why it is important so that they can effectively and accurately perform SCWP outreach.		# trainings
				# speakers trained
	Host Watershed Wide Events	Host two watershed-wide events, in person or virtual, that target various audiences throughout the watershed to learn more about and engage with the SCWP.		# participants
<b>B. Reporting Back</b>	BioBlitz and/or Snapshot Cal Coast	Partner with the Natural History Museum and/or California Academy of Sciences to discover, record, and share observations of local nature.		# events
				# community members reached
	Heal the Bay's Aquarium + potential partners (Roundhouse, Cabrillo)	Host a public forum (in person or virtual) to discuss ecology and climate resiliency in relation to the SCWP.		
	Quarterly Reports and WASC Meetings	Ensure that community priorities and needs are being shared back by Watershed Coordinator to WASC members and taken into consideration as they decide on project funding.		# quarterly reports submitted on time
				# WASC meetings attended

## Collaborative Efforts

There will be multiple collaborative efforts ongoing throughout the year to help ensure a successful implementation of the Strategic Outreach & Engagement Plan. Heal the Bay will conduct at least monthly check-ins with our partner Urbano Strategies to assess progress using our metrics. Ava Farriday is our Watershed Program Coordinator and will be responsible for administrative work to coordinate our partner meetings and track our progress through Salesforce.

Mikaela Randolph (Heal the Bay), who is one of the Central Santa Monica Bay Coordinators, has weekly meetings calendared with Nancy Shrodes and they communicate frequently. This will be very helpful coordinating outreach and engagement to our northern boundary in the SSMB.

Mikaela collaborates closely with Michelle Struthers from SGA as they share Watershed Coordinator responsibilities for the CSMB. Tara Dales (SGA) is the Watershed Coordinator for the Lower LA River Watershed, which borders the SSMB to the east. This allows for great coordination between the two organizations, Heal the Bay and SGA. We have also been in nearly monthly communication with the Watershed Coordinators for the Upper LA River Watershed, which is the last boundary shared. This Watershed Area has multiple coordinators, like Central does, so we anticipate for collaboration and sharing effective practices to continue. And all parties will be attending the monthly Watershed Coordinator meetings in addition to the aforementioned meetings.

Annelisa Moe, Heal the Bay's Water Quality Scientist, will be tracking the WHAM Committee (Measure W, Measure H, Measure A, and Measure M) and will work with local Public Agencies to help identify other funding opportunities. Collaboratively, Annelisa and Nancy will engage with the WMPs, OurCounty Plan implementation, and the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program (DACIP). This is a regional collaboration effort, and we plan to gather additional expertise from Tree People, as leads on the DACIP, during our Coordinator monthly meetings. Nancy and partners will maintain existing and develop new relationships with the many municipalities to connect the work to the Municipal Program of the Safe, Clean Water Program.





**SAFE CLEAN  
WATER PROGRAM**

# UPPER LOS ANGELES RIVER WATERSHED AREA



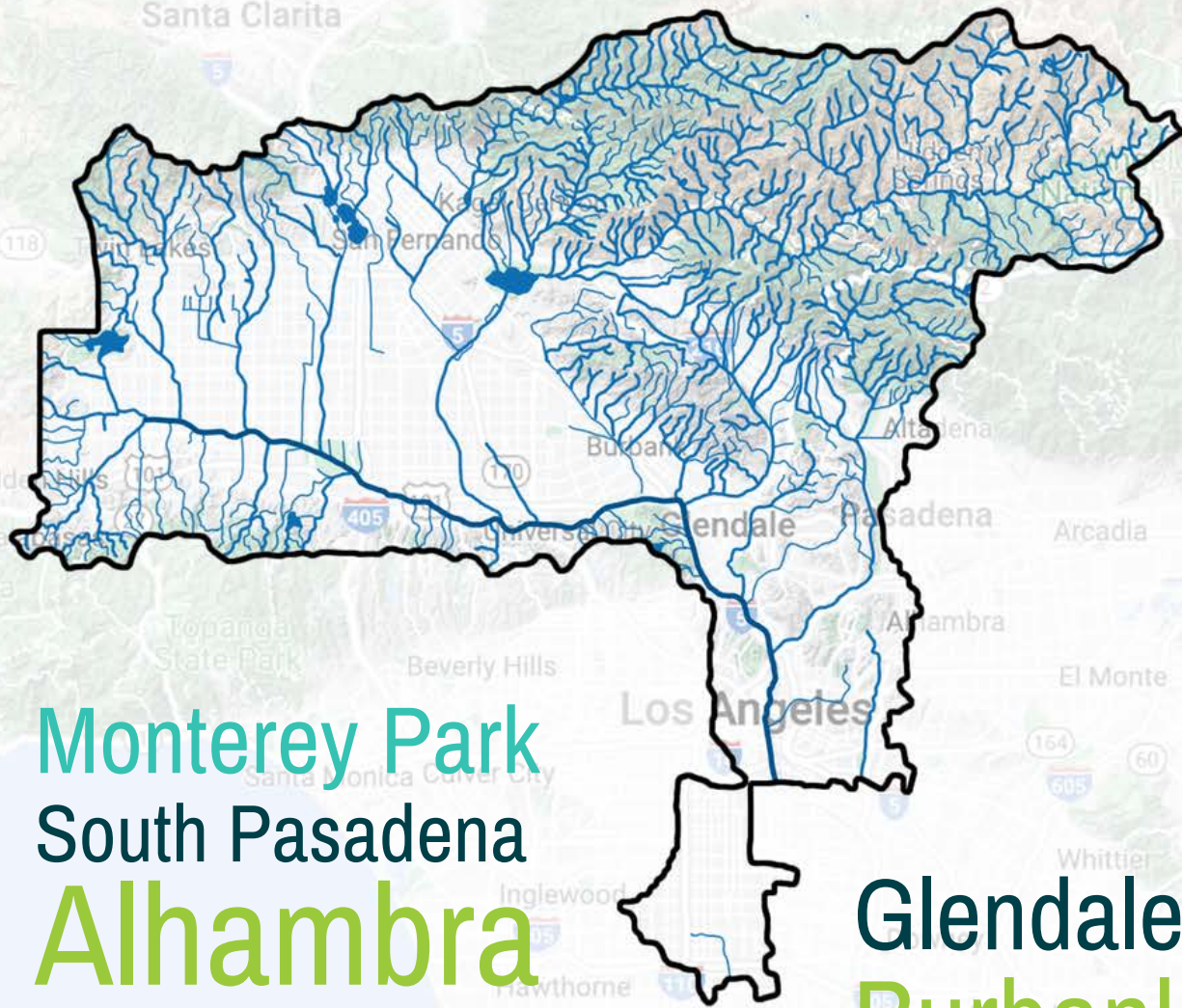
## STRATEGIC OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Submitted June 30, 2023



# ULAR Watershed Area Map



Monterey Park  
South Pasadena  
**Alhambra**  
La Cañada Flintridge  
**Pasadena**  
**Calabasas**  
Santa Clarita

Glendale  
**Burbank**  
**Hidden Hills**  
San Fernando  
**Los Angeles**

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# List of Acronyms

BMPs	Best Management Practices
CBOs	Community-Based Organizations
CIMP	Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program
CIP	Capital Improvement Project
CWH	Council for Watershed Health
DAC	Disadvantaged Community
DACIP	Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program
EOS	Environmental Outreach Strategies
EWMP	Enhanced Watershed Management Program
FTBMI	Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
GLAC	Greater Los Angeles County
IRWM	Integrated Regional Water Management
LACPW	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
LARWMP	Los Angeles River Watershed Monitoring Program
LID	Low Impact Development
METRO	Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (Permit)
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
O&M	Operations and Management
SCWP	Safe, Clean Water Program
TA	Technical Assistance
TMDLS	Total Maximum Daily Loads
ULAR	Upper Los Angeles River
WASC	Watershed Area Steering Committee
WC	Watershed Coordinator
WHAM	Measures W, H, A, and M in Los Angeles County
WMG	Watershed Management Group
WMPs	Watershed Management Programs



# I. Introduction

## Land Acknowledgement

The authors of this Plan acknowledge that the geographic area represented as the Upper Los Angeles River (ULAR) Watershed Area, is the unceded ancestral homelands of the Gabrielino Tongva, Ventureño Chumash, Gabrielino Kizh, and Fernandeano Tataviam Nations. We recognize that these Tribes are still present and that they are the original stewards of this land and waters. We make this acknowledgement out of respect for their long-standing connection to and protection of this area's watershed. We honor their elders, both past and present and the descendants who are citizens of these tribes. Furthermore, we uphold the responsibility to carry out a plan in the unceded lands within ULAR that will meaningfully involve citizens of these tribes.

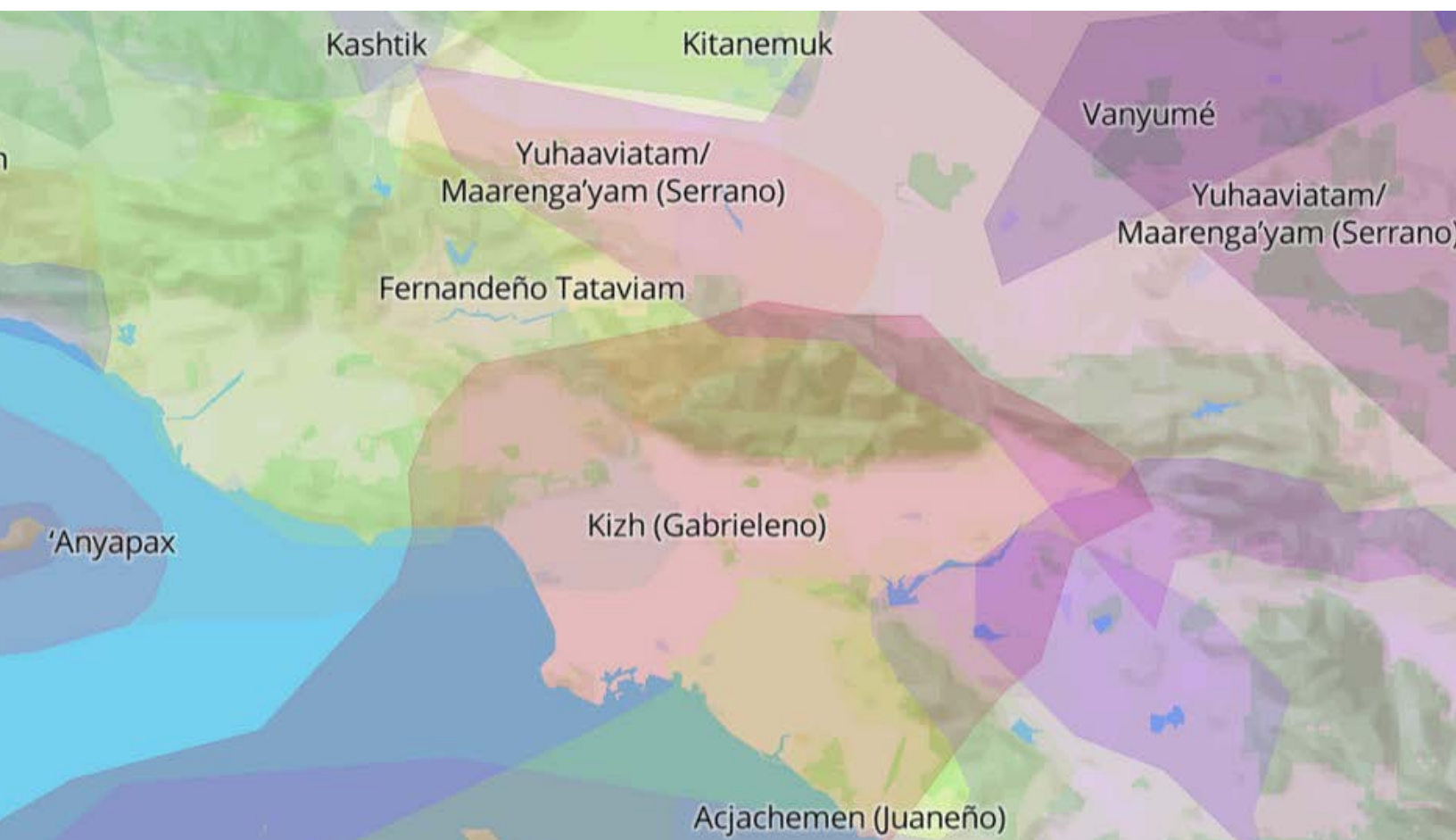


Figure 1. The ancestral homelands of the Gabrielino Tongva, Ventureño Chumash, Gabrielino Kizh, and Fernandeano Tataviam Nations.  
Image Source: <https://native-land.ca/>

## Background

The [Safe, Clean Water Program](#) (SCWP) was established with the passage of Measure W in 2018 by voters in Los Angeles County with the guiding goals of improving water quality, increasing water supply and enhancing communities. The program generates revenue through a [special parcel tax](#) of impermeable surfaces. Sixty percent of program revenues fund stormwater projects and programs across nine watershed areas through the Regional Program. The [Technical Resources Program](#), which is part of this Regional Program, was created to provide resources to community groups, municipalities, and individuals who need technical assistance to develop project concepts.



Our Water Rally for Measure W at the LA County Hall of Administration on 7/17/2018. Photos courtesy of TreePeople. Photography by TreePeople's Adam Corey Thomas.

The role of [Watershed Coordinators](#) was created as part of the Technical Resource Program to educate and build capacity in communities, connect potential applicants to technical resources, and build inclusion and meaningful engagement in pursuit of SCW Program Goals. Across the nine watershed areas, there are 12 Watershed Coordinators with some watershed areas having more than one Watershed Coordinator due to population size.

The Watershed Coordinators for the Upper Los Angeles (ULAR) Watershed Area are Adi Liberman at [Environmental Outreach Strategies](#) (EOS), Carlos Moran with [Council for Watershed Health](#) (CWH), and Kristina Kreter with [Council for Watershed Health](#) (CWH).



## Purpose

This updated Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan (SOEP) was developed to identify the strategies and vision of success to guide the Watershed Coordinators in their work across their nine tasks. The SOEP aims to identify strategies to build meaningful and cooperative working relationships, solicit and value each community's perspective and expertise, and work with Safe, Clean Water Program partners to advance education, involvement, and connectivity back to water-related issues. The Plan will leverage the experience of the Watershed Coordination Team, external stakeholder relationships, and best practices. The Plan will identify the various target audiences and relationships across several stakeholders groups and communities, including municipalities, utilities, non-profits, community groups, faith-based groups, tribal groups, etc. To solicit input on community issues, the Plan will summarize strategies for engagement. The Watershed Coordination (WC) Team will utilize adaptive management strategies to refine methods and techniques as the plan is implemented. This Plan will be updated every year to incorporate lessons learned by the Watershed Coordinators throughout the year.

The Strategic Outreach and Engagement for the ULAR Watershed Area is comprised of the following sections:

I. **Watershed Area Description**

A brief summary of the physical, social and political characteristics of the watershed, including context within the SCWP.

II. **Interested Parties**

An overview of the many categories of interested parties relevant to the ULAR Watershed Area that will be included in a continuously growing network database and involved in the outreach and engagement efforts of the Watershed Coordinators.

III. **Vision for Success & Evaluation Criteria**

The long-term and short-term vision of success for Watershed Coordinators' support the SCWP and how this success can be evaluated.

IV. **Strategies**

The approach Watershed Coordinators will use to support the goals of the SCWP and accomplish the vision of success.

V. **Identifying Collaborative Efforts**

Summary of collaboration with other regional Watershed Coordinators, the SCWP Municipal Program, and other regional planning efforts relevant to this work.



## II. Watershed Area Description

### Physical Characteristics

The Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area, “ULAR,” represents the upper portion of the Los Angeles River Watershed. This watershed area (highlighted in green below) is located in the midwest portion of Los Angeles County (Figure 2). This Watershed Area covers approximately 613 square miles. The ULAR Watershed Area reaches Calabasas at the westernmost point, spanning the full San Fernando Valley area into the Angeles National Forest in the San Gabriel Mountains. The bottom portion of the ULAR Watershed Area runs along the northern boundary of Griffith Park, covers downtown Los Angeles, East Los Angeles, dipping down into part of South Los Angeles, including Watts, Westmont, and Willowbrook.

### Geology and Topography

The two major mountain ranges within the ULAR Watershed Area are the Santa Susana Mountains and the San Gabriel Mountains. These mountain ranges are part of the Transverse Ranges, which are named for running east-west rather than north-south like most California ranges. The ranges are young and rising quickly due to tectonic activity. However, the rapid uplift is partially counteracted by frequent debris flows and rock falls which are exacerbated by the slopes' steepness, fire occurrence, and intense rainstorms.

The San Gabriel Mountains are composed of Mesozoic and old igneous and metamorphic rock. The Santa Susana Mountains re formed of Miocene to Pleistocene marine and non-marine sedimentary rock. Together, the topology and geology of these mountain ranges created the rich alluvial deposits that characterize the San Gabriel Valley, the eastern portion of the San Fernando Valley, and a large part of the coastal plain. The area

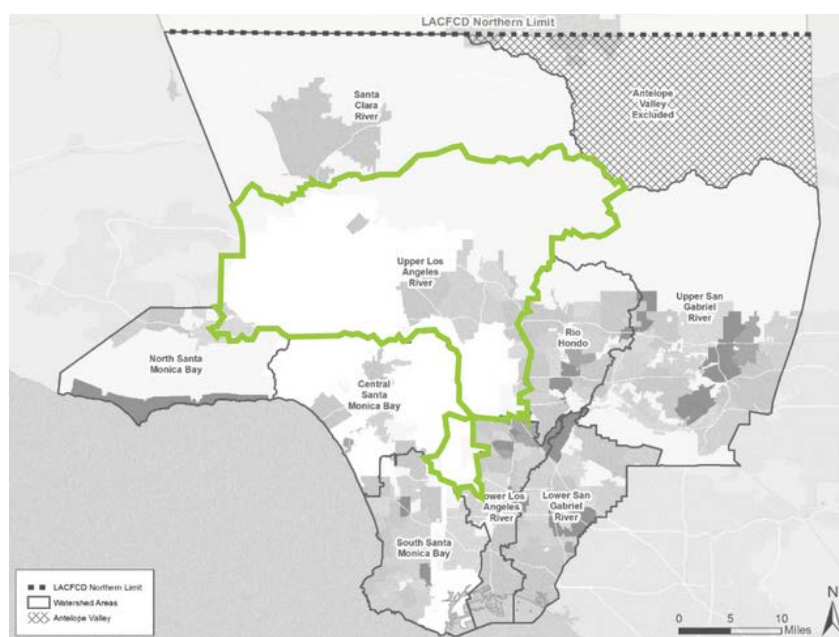


Figure 2. Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area. Map edited from [SCW Regional Map](#).

at the base of the mountains is predominantly coarse gravel. With increasing distance from the mountains, the granularity of the deposits diminishes in size to sand, silt, and clay. In the central and western portions of the San Fernando Valley, the deposits are fine-grained materials created by the erosion of shale, sandstone, and clay. Much of this material is deposited by streams entering the valley from the southern slopes of the Santa Susana Mountains ([LARWMP](#)).

The Verdugo Mountains and the San Rafael Hills are two small ranges that lie in the ULAR Watershed Area between the eastern edge of the San Fernando Valley and the San Gabriel Mountains. Verdugo Peak, at 3,126 feet, is the highest point in these small ranges and lies entirely within the watershed area. To the southeast lies the San Gabriel Valley, the western portion of which is within the Los Angeles River Watershed. Elevations in the mountain-rimmed San Fernando Valley range from 3,747 feet in the north against the Santa Susana Mountains to 1,965 feet in the Santa Monica Mountains. South of the Elysian Hills, the coastal plain slopes southward with elevation drops from approximately 300 feet to sea level and spanning a distance of 20 miles ([LARWMP](#)).



Walkway in South Los Angeles Wetlands Park. Photo courtesy of TreePeople. Photography by Adam Thomas.

Wetlands in South Los Angeles Wetlands Park. Photo courtesy of TreePeople. Photography by Adam Thomas.

## Hydrology

The entire Los Angeles River extends approximately 51 miles from the headwaters in the Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mountains to discharge into the Pacific Ocean via Long Beach Harbor. The river begins at the confluence of two channelized streams in Canoga Park, Bell Creek, and Arroyo Calabasas. From here, it flows through the San Fernando Valley, Downtown Los Angeles, and the Gateway Cities to its mouth in Long Beach where it drains to the Pacific Ocean. The slope of the Los Angeles River is dramatic, dropping an average of 31 feet per mile ([LARWMP](#)).

Major water features in the ULAR Watershed Area include the Arroyo Seco, Verdugo Wash, Tujunga Wash and Pacoima Wash. There are five dams in the ULAR Watershed Area which include Devil's Gate Dam, Big Tujunga Dam, Hansen Dam, Pacoima Dam, and Sepulveda Dam. There are several spreading grounds and basins located in the San Fernando Valley. Spreading grounds in the ULAR Watershed Area include ([LACPW](#)):

- Branford Spreading Basin
- Lopez Spreading Grounds
- Pacoima Spreading Grounds
- Hansen Spreading Grounds
- Tujunga Spreading Grounds

There are four water reclamation plants in the ULAR Watershed Area. These plants include:

- Burbank Water Reclamation Plant
- Glendale Water Reclamation Plant
- Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant
- La Cañada Water Reclamation Plant

Groundwater plays a key role in the ULAR watershed's hydrology. By definition, groundwater comes from stormwater soaking into the ground, where it is stored between soil particles. Groundwater supplies water to rivers and streams and is one of the sources of Los Angeles drinking water. There are seven water basins that are firmly in the ULAR -- Central basin, Verdugo Basin, Sylmar Basin, San Fernando Basin, Raymond Basin, Eagle Rock Basin, Main San Gabriel Basin. The Hollywood Basin is partially in the ULAR watershed.



CWH & EOS tour of the Tujunga Spreading Grounds in March 2023.



## Soil/Vegetation

The historical ecology of the Los Angeles region was identified in a 2020 study by the The Spatial Sciences Institute, Department of History at USC, and the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability at UCLA. 48.2% of the ULAR’s historical ecology is Chaparral. The next largest group is 16.1% made up of Coastal Sage Scrub. 12.9% consists of Foothill and Valley Forests and Woodlands, 13.5% is California Grasslands and Flowerfields. The remaining land is spread between Riverwash, Riparian Forest, Mixed Evergreen and Montane Conifer Forest, Freshwater Marsh, Salt Marsh Meadows, Wet Meadows, and land that is considered “unclassified” ([Ethington et al, 2020](#)).

Soils are critical for the effective capture and infiltration of water. The speed at which water percolates through the soil is critical to developing projects that do not create standing water, pools, or enhance flooding. The soils highlighted in this map are effective in moving water toward our groundwater basins (ReDesign LA).

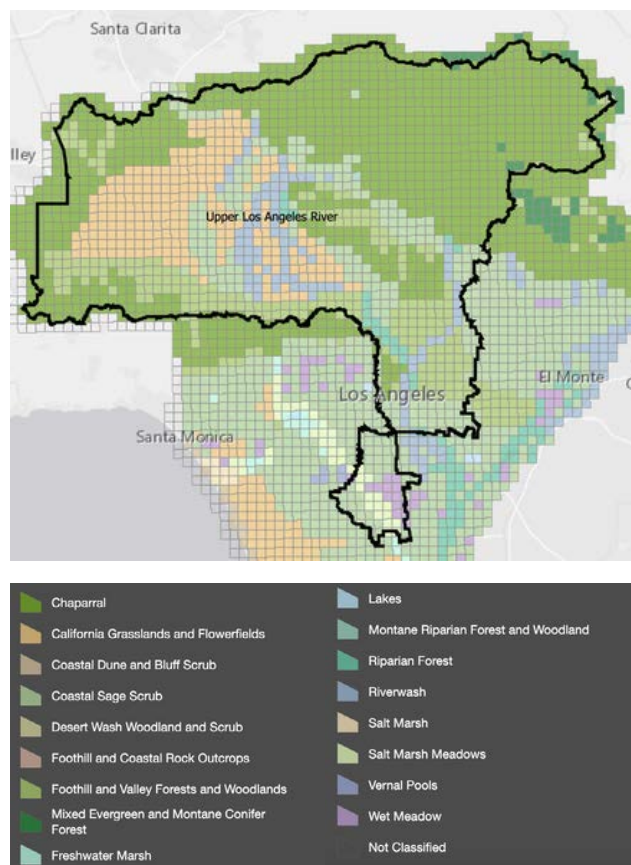


Figure 3. Historical Ecology of ULAR Watershed Area. Data source: [Ethington et al, 2020](#).

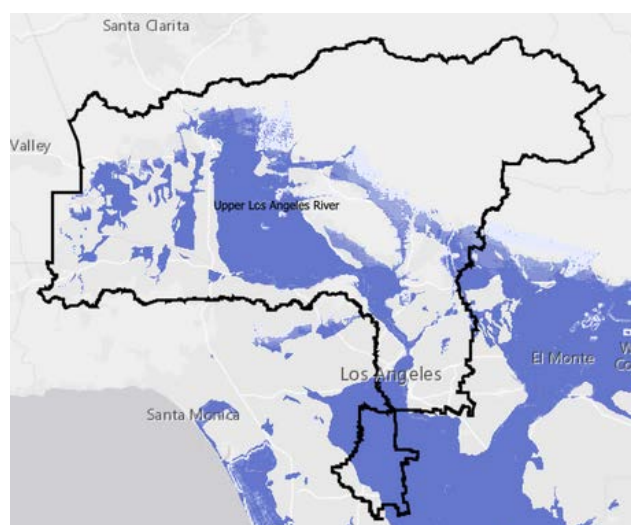
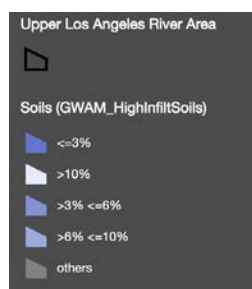


Figure 4. Soils with good infiltration rates. The lighter areas have the highest rates of infiltration. Areas shown in this map could be good locations for infiltration projects. ReDesign LA.



## Air Quality

“Particulate matter or PM2.5 is very small airborne particle pollution (less than 2.5 micrometers), which is less than the thickness of a human hair. PM2.5 is a mixture of particles that can include organic chemicals, dust, soot and metals” ([OEHHA, CalEnviroscreen 4.0, 2021](#)). The prevalence of PM2.5 Values are significantly higher in the ULAR census tracts compared to the rest of the state of California. Children, the elderly, and people suffering from heart or lung disease, asthma, or chronic illness are most sensitive to the effects of PM2.5 exposure ([OEHHA, CalEnviroscreen 4.0, 2021](#)).

ULAR census tracts experience high impacts of climate change and air pollution. CalEnviroscreen produces scores for California census tracts that combine the impacts of pollution burden and population characteristics such as sensitive populations and socioeconomic factors. The ULAR has high CalEnviroscreen scores, with the majority of ULAR census tracts falling into the 85 -100 percentile for the whole state ([OEHHA, CalEnviroscreen, 2021](#)).

## Land Use

The ULAR Watershed Area is a dynamic and predominantly highly urban watershed. The entire Los Angeles River Watershed is 824 mi<sup>2</sup> and encompasses forests, natural streams, urban tributaries, residential neighborhoods, and industrial land uses. Approximately 324 mi<sup>2</sup> of the watershed is open space or forest, located mostly in the upper watershed in the San Gabriel Mountains, Santa Susana Mountains, and Verdugo Mountains. South of the mountains, the river flows through highly developed residential, commercial, and industrial areas. ([LARWMP](#))



The Great Wall of Los Angeles" after rainstorms in November, 2022

## Political Characteristics

The ULAR Watershed Area encompasses 12 municipalities and unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. The unincorporated areas include the communities of West Hills, West Chatsworth, Universal City, La Crescenta-Montrose, Altadena, East Los Angeles, Westmont, Willowbrook, and Florence-Firestone. The municipalities that fall either completely or partly within the boundaries of the ULAR Watershed Area include:

- Alhambra
- Burbank
- Calabasas
- Glendale
- Hidden Hills
- La Cañada Flintridge
- Los Angeles
- Monterey Park
- Pasadena
- San Fernando
- Santa Clarita
- South Pasadena

Nearly all of the Los Angeles City Council Districts fall within the ULAR Watershed Area, including Council Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, and 15. Several of these council districts span both the ULAR Watershed Area and another neighboring watershed area. The ULAR Watershed Coordinators will coordinate with the Watershed Coordinators for these areas on outreach to shared council districts.

County Supervisorial Districts covering the ULAR Watershed Area include District 1, 2, 3, and 5 ([Appendix I](#)). State Assembly Districts in the Watershed Area include District 38, 39, 41, 43, 45, 46, 49, 51, 53, 59, and 64 ([Appendix II](#)). State Senate Districts in the ULAR Watershed Area includes 18, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 33, and 35 ([Appendix III](#)). The U.S. Congressional Districts within the ULAR Watershed Area are Districts 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33, 34, 37, 40, 43, and 44 ([Appendix IV](#)).

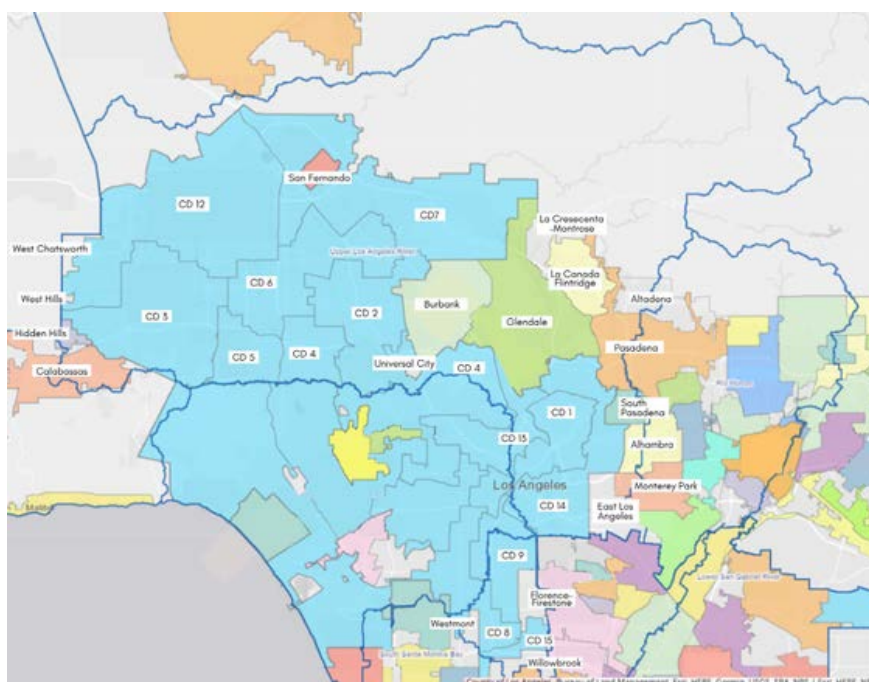


Figure 5. Cities, Communities, and Los Angeles City Council Districts within the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area. Source: OurWaterLA, Water Leader Resources, MEASURE W: Safe Clean Water L.A. Map



## California Native American Ancestral Homelands

Meaningful Tribal involvement is lacking in decision making related to public investments that support the planning and development of water infrastructure. The active presence of Fernandeño Tataviam, Gabrielino Tongva, Gabrielino Kizh, and Ventureño Chumash Tribal Nations in the ULAR Watershed Area calls for the WC Team to engage Tribal governments, organizations, and communities across the region. WC's will connect with tribes and with tribal organizations and groups in the region such as the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, Tataviam Land Conservancy, Tongva Taraxat Paxaavxa Conservancy, the Sacred Places Institute and others. Specifically, the WC team will continue to focus on tribal involvement with the SCWP and aligning SCWP resources with the project development and implementation efforts of the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians ([FTBMI](#)).



The Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians is a California Native American Tribe located within the northern Los Angeles County, California who's tribal ancestral territory spans most of the existing ULAR Watershed Boundaries (See [Figure 1 on p.5](#)). The ancestral homelands of the FTBMI include the four diverse territories of San Fernando, Simi, Santa Clarita, and Antelope Valleys. The FTBMI's traditional territory extends through the northern portion of Los Angeles County for approximately 2,000 square miles. Fernandeño Tataviam homelands transverse different biospheres from chaparral to high desert and forest, that include two lakes, two rivers and tributaries, as well as cultural and sacred sites.

Unlike the southern portion of Los Angeles County with high density urban centers, much of the land development within northern Los Angeles County is relatively new development, which requires the Tribe to monitor potential destruction of cultural sites and impacts to habitat, water, air, and climate. These lands and sites are constantly threatened by plans for development and encroachment. FTBMI actively engages in activities that protect environmental and cultural values of its traditional territory. Currently, the Tribe carries out these critically important activities through the Environmental Protection Division and other divisions within the Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Department. Under California law, the Tribe receives over 300 notices annually of impending land development with potential threats to environmental and cultural resources. For the last four decades, the Tribe has actively consulted with local governments on environmental protection under the California Environmental Quality Act (1970). Through Assembly Bill 52 (Gatto 2014), the Tribe consults on a government-to- government level with the County of Los Angeles and cities throughout the region to mitigate impacts to cultural resources by projects breaking ground within the San Fernando, Simi, Santa Clarita, and Antelope Valleys.



The population of the FTBML is 800+ citizens. Los Angeles County is home to three Native American Indian tribes that predate the establishment of California Missions: the Ventureño, Gabrieleño, and Fernandeno. According to 2019 U.S. Census Data presented by the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission, California is home to more people of Native heritage than any other state in the United States. Los Angeles County is home to the second largest concentration of persons of American Indian descent in the United States. The U.S. Census in 2019 estimated that the Los Angeles County population of persons identifying as fully or partly American Indian or Alaskan Native is 162,763.

Presently, some 30% of FTBML citizens live close to or below the Federal poverty threshold. A further 1 out of every 2 FTBML families live below the 2021 Los Angeles County median family income of \$80,000 (U.S. Census, 2020), and therefore cannot afford to live within their traditional territory. 35% percent of FTBML families spend more than 1/3 of their income on rent. Moreover, approximately one in every 15 Tribal Citizens has been homeless within the last ten years. Approximately 1% of tribal citizens have no income.

It is well-known that traditional, cultural Native American practices effectively served to maintain a sustainable ecological balance among land, water and people for thousands of years. The WC Team understands that traditional ecological knowledge and Nature Based Solutions play an important role in water management, not only because of the ecological benefits that come with restoring traditional practices, but also because it provides an approach for the preservation of important aspects of cultural heritage.



Background image: "Rushing Waters" mural in Pacoima. The image shows a Native American woman holding a basin of water, Justin Cram.  
<https://www.kcet.org/shows/artbound/rushing-waters-reclaiming-pacoima-with-public-art>

## Social Characteristics

The ULAR watershed area has a total population of 3,233,368 (U.S. Census 2018).

There are 59 Disadvantage Communities within the ULAR, based on the DWR definition<sup>1</sup> (DWR Dac Mapping Tool). 213 census tracts in the ULAR are considered Severely Disadvantaged, with a median household income of less than \$42,737, and 179 census tracts that are considered Disadvantaged, with a median household income \$56,982 (Department of Water Resources, 2018).

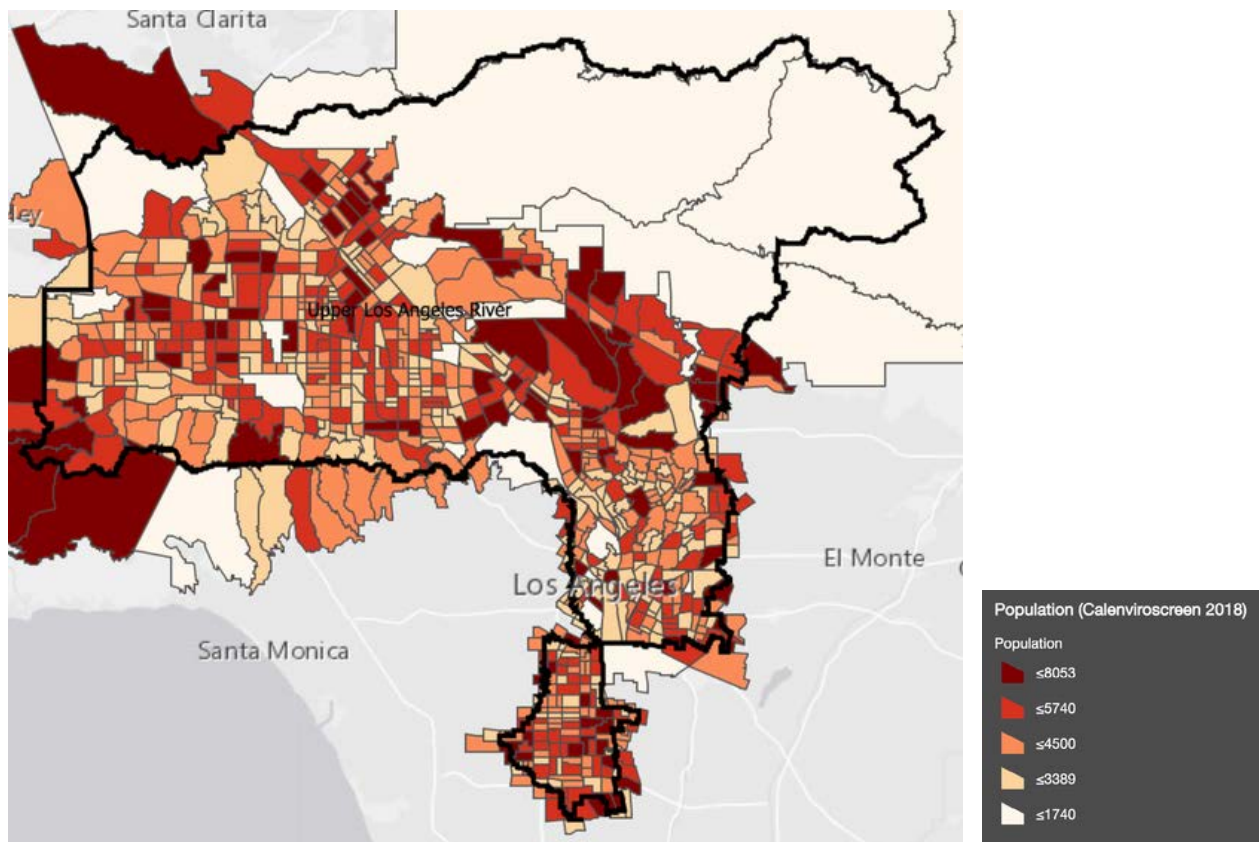


Figure 6. Population of ULAR Watershed Area. Calenviroscreen, 2018.

Historic and current social and environmental inequities have directly led to an inequitable distribution of resources to communities in our watershed area, including trees, park/open space, flooding, impacts of the urban heat island effect, access to recreational opportunities, and environmental pollution burden ([Figure 7 and 8 on p.17](#)). This has clear consequences for the health and safety of community members as seen through the impacts of COVID-19, and by the increasing burden of changing climate on underserved communities in our watershed area.

<sup>1</sup> DWR defines disadvantaged communities as census tracts with an annual median household income less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income. Severely disadvantaged communities are those census tracts with a median household income less than 60% of the statewide average.



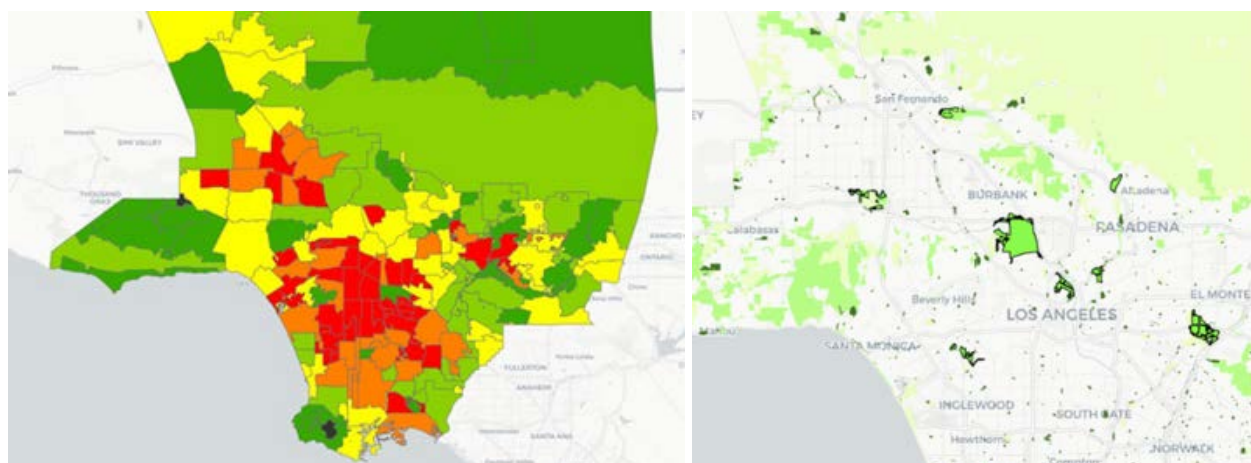


Figure 7 and 8. (Left) Park needs of communities with red indicating high park need and green indicating low park need. (Right) Locations of park space, green space, and open space across LA County. Source: [Los Angeles County Dept. Parks and Recreation, Parks Needs Assessment, 2016](#)

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health compiled a “Health Profile” for cities and communities across Los Angeles County. These Community Health Profiles use 2018 census data to provide data points on determinants of health - both social and economic conditions - that together influence the health of the community. There are community health summaries for most of the communities in the ULAR Watershed Area. The Watershed Coordinators have summarized the data provided in these health profiles that are available for the communities within the ULAR Watershed Area ([Appendix V](#)). The health profiles offer insight into who lives in these communities, what investment, or lack thereof, has looked like historically, and in turn will help the ULAR Watershed Coordinator team identify priorities and help attune projects to align with community needs. Effective engagement strategies differ by area and need to be tailored based on the community in which we are working.



(Left and right) Sustainable SGV Coalition members, partners and organizations, and local residents joined [APIFM](#) (Asian Pacific Islander Forward Movement) and the Sustainable SGV Coalition on a community walk in Alhambra. APIFM selected this site because according to the [Transportation Injury Mapping System](#) (TIMS), there have been 35 reported incidents of vehicle collisions with pedestrians and bikers within a half mile radius of Fremont Elementary School since 2015. [Active SGV](#) and the Council for Watershed Health were in attendance to provide ideas and be a resource for green infrastructure and traffic calming elements around Fremont Elementary School.

## Safe, Clean Water Program Context

The implementation of the Los Angeles County Safe, Clean Water Program shall be 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 DAC 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.
- K. Provide Regional Program infrastructure funds benefiting 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. Promote green jobs and career pathways.
- M. Ensure ongoing operations and maintenance for Projects.

The ULAR Watershed Area is one of nine watershed areas created in Los Angeles County through the Regional Program. Regional Program funds for this Watershed Area are programmed by the Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC), composed of local stakeholders from agencies, municipalities, and community members from within the Watershed Area. The Steering Committee meets regularly to fund regional projects which enhance water quality, water supply, and community investment benefits through annual Stormwater Investments Plans (SIP). The WASC also plays a role in promoting the numerous program goals listed above. The membership of the ULAR WASC is provided in [Appendix VI](#).



The ULAR Watershed Area is estimated to receive up to \$38.4 million every year to fund regional projects and programs, however, this amount may decrease over time as more residents appeal and as permeable surfaces increase. The total amount of funds for the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area over the next five years is estimated to be \$194 million. As of the most recent fiscal year, 2023-2024, 86% of the budget for the next five years has been allocated to projects by the WASC. This leaves approximately \$75.7 million remaining for projects over the next five years. This presents a significant challenge for the ULAR Watershed Area, but also presents opportunities for Watershed Coordinators to look into new partnerships, put forth small, cost effective projects through the Technical Resource Program, and leverage diverse funding sourcing that bring in unique cost share partners.



Central-Jefferson Green Alley Network, April 2023

The fiscal year 2020-2021 Stormwater Investment Plan included 12 infrastructure projects, five technical resource program projects, and three scientific studies. The fiscal year 2021-2022 Stormwater Investment Plan included 10 infrastructure projects, two technical resource program projects, and three scientific studies. The ULAR WASC voted to include five infrastructure projects, two technical resource program projects, and three scientific studies in the Stormwater Investment Plan for fiscal year 2022-2023. For the fiscal year 2023-2024, the ULAR WASC voted to fund seven infrastructure projects, and one scientific study. For more details and project benefits (including but not limited to those projects that claim DAC benefit), visit the [SIP Tool](#) or in the [SCW Portal](#) on the web.

## MS4 Compliance Partnerships

The ULAR Watershed Area is contained within the [Upper Los Angeles River Enhanced Watershed Management Plan](#) (ULAR EWMP). The [ULAR Watershed Management Group](#) oversees this Plan and is composed of 19 agencies. The City of Los Angeles is the coordinating agency for the ULAR Watershed Management Group and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program development. In addition to the City of Los Angeles, the group consists of the County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, and the Cities of Alhambra, Burbank, Calabasas, Glendale, Hidden Hills, La Canada Flintridge, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Rosemead, San Gabriel, South El Monte, South Pasadena, San Marino, and Temple City. Of these cities, all fall within the SCWP ULAR Watershed Area with the exception of the Cities of Montebello, Rosemead, San Gabriel, South El Monte, San Marino, and Temple City (which fall within the Rio Hondo Watershed Area).

### III. Interested Parties

One of the key tasks for the Watershed Coordinators is to create and maintain relationships with a diverse array of interested parties across the watershed area who represent a variety of priorities.

Both the Council for Watershed Health and Environmental Outreach Strategies have a list of interested parties our organizations have encountered, worked with, and/or know of that will serve as a starting point for creating and maintaining a network of interested parties in the watershed area. The Watershed Coordination Team will continue to develop and maintain a network database of interested parties spanning the ULAR Watershed Area that will include community leaders, CBOs, NGOs, tribes and tribal organizations, elected officials, agency staff, academics, utilities, labor groups, funders, etc. The database will cover project and engagement partner connections, contact information, background, location, community priorities, and general areas of influence. Previous project proposals, participants in prior ULAR WASC meetings, Watershed Management Plans, regional program participants, reports, and municipal websites will also be referenced in building this database. The database analysis will allow the team to evaluate where there may be a lack of capacity due to gaps in coverage and focus time on those communities that haven't necessarily had ongoing support in years past. The database will be a continually evolving and living document as new conversations, relationships, and connections are made over the course of the year through this program. A sample of interested parties included in this database are outlined in the table on the following pages.



Earvin "Magic" Johnson Recreation Area in Los Angeles, CA.

### City, County, State, and Federal Elected Officials

City Councilmembers, School Superintendents, County Supervisors, State Assemblymembers, and U.S. Representatives. County Supervisorial Districts which represent the ULAR Watershed Area are District 1, 2, 3, and 5. State Assembly Districts in the Watershed Area include District 38, 39, 41, 43, 45, 46, 49, 51, 53, 59, and 64. State Senate Districts in the ULAR Watershed Area include 18, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 33, and 35. The U.S. Congressional Districts within the ULAR Watershed Area are Districts 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33, 34, 37, 40, 43, and 44.

### Neighborhood Groups

Town councils, neighborhood councils, neighborhood and homeowners associations, and neighborhood council groups (e.g. Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance).

### Councils of Governments

San Fernando Valley Council of Governments, San Gabriel Valley Council of Government

### Tribal Governments

Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, Gabrieliño Tongva Indian Tribe, Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, Kizh Nation Gabrieliño Band of Mission Indians.  
Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission

### Tribal Organizations

Tataviam Land Conservancy, Pukuu Cultural Community Services, Tongva Taraxat Paxaavxa Conservancy, Tivuaca'ai Conservation Corps, Sacred Places Institute

### Municipality Staff and Municipal Agencies

Staff (non-electeds) who represent the Cities of Alhambra, Burbank, Calabasas, Glendale, Hidden Hills, La Cañada Flintridge, Los Angeles, Monterey Park, Pasadena, San Fernando, Santa Clarita, and South Pasadena. Particularly staff within departments such as public works, engineering, parks & recreation, utilities, operations & maintenance, etc.

### County/Regional Agencies

Los Angeles County agencies including but not limited to Los Angeles County Public Works, Department of Parks and Recreation, METRO, etc.

Continued on next page

### State and Federal Agencies

California State Agencies including but not limited to State Water and Resources Control Board, California Natural Resources Agency, Regional Mountains Conservancy, California Environmental Protection Agency, Watershed Conservation Authority, California Department of Transportation, etc. Relevant federal agencies might include the U.S. EPA, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, etc.

### Water Purveyors

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Glendale Water and Power, Burbank Water and Power, South Pasadena City Water Department, Foothill Municipal Water District, Metropolitan Water District, La Canada Irrigation District, West Valley Water District, etc.

### Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

NGO Nonprofits who serve the greater geographical region. Examples include but are not limited to Friends of the LA River, Amigos de los Rios, TreePeople, The River Project, Boys and Girls Clubs, River LA, North East Trees, LA Conservation Corps

### Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)

CBO's connected geographically to a local issue and addressing a localized community priority. Examples include but are not limited to Promesa Boyle Heights, SCOPE, Nature for All, Somos Familia, Mujeres de la Tierra, Trust South LA, Pacoima Beautiful, Padres Pioneros, Sky Valley Volunteers, as well as community public health clinics and social service organizations.

### Local Businesses

Businesses, business-owners, and business associations located within the ULAR Watershed Area, particularly those located near potential project sites and areas of community priority including small businesses, brick-and-mortar businesses, street vendors, etc.

### Faith-Based Institutions

Groups of individuals united on the basis of religious or spiritual beliefs and organizations whose purpose is to meet the spiritual, social, and cultural needs of their members who may wish to play a role in public awareness of SCWP or engage on a project opportunity which could benefit their members.

Continued on next page



### Labor Unions

Labor unions with membership that live and work within the ULAR Watershed Area (e.g. Laborers Local 300). These groups may be engaged around project hiring practices and workforce development topics in particular. Also included is the Rebuild SoCal Partnership, which represents more than 90,000 union workers.

### Land Conservancies

Both public agencies and nonprofit land conservancy agencies whose area falls within the ULAR Watershed Area.

### School Districts and Schools

Interested parties that may be engaged within schools and school districts include superintendents, district administrative staff, sustainability staff, school principals, teachers, students, facilities management departments and staff, and parent groups.

### Higher Education Institutions

Opportunities can be both infrastructure project opportunities on campuses as well as scientific study opportunities based on research coming out of these institutions. Higher education institutions in the ULAR Watershed Area range include private colleges, community colleges, private university campus offshoots, and state universities.

### Other

Other interested parties will include chambers of commerce, professional members associations such as CASQA, research & development agencies such as SCCWRP, ULAR Water Management Group, Faith Based Organizations, LA City Plants, Accelerate LA, non-traditional interested parties. Etc.



CWH leads a tour of Elmer Ave and Elmer Paseo with [Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative's](#) staff (LANI). June 2023

## IV. Vision for Success & Evaluation Criteria

This section serves to provide our vision of success for Watershed Coordinators and methods for evaluating whether success is being achieved. It is intended to both transparently communicate our vision to the public and provide the ULAR WASC and District a framework for evaluating our work as Watershed Coordinators. Since the vision may be refocused each year when the SOEP is revised, we include both our long-term vision for the watershed as a whole as well as a near-term evaluation criteria for our work as Watershed Coordinators.

### Vision of Success for the Watershed Area

The vision of success for ULAR Watershed Coordinators is that all Stormwater Investment Plans include multi-benefit stormwater projects that:

1. Are community informed and aligned with local priorities
2. Integrate community-based organizations (CBOs), tribal, and community groups as project partners
3. Meet the mission of the SCWP which is to “empower communities to:
  - Capture it** - Increase our yearly collection of rainwater to supply water for millions of people in Los Angeles County annually,
  - Clean it** - Reduce the volume of trash before it reaches our beaches and coastal waters,
  - Make it safe** - Help eliminate the toxins, fertilizers, bacteria, plastics, metals from our cars, and chemicals that flow into the ocean,
  - Make it for everyone** - Protect creeks and streams, build parks, liven up concrete landscapes, and create green space for our communities.”

The test of our vision is whether it leads the voters of Los Angeles County, especially those in the ULAR Watershed Area, to view the program as successful, having met the expectations voters had when they passed Measure W.

By staying focused on this vision, the ULAR Watershed Coordinators will meet the following goals of the SCWP:

- **Improve Water Quality**
- **Increase Water Supply**
- **Protect Public Health**

## Evaluation Criteria

The following measures of success will guide the Strategies identified in Section V. Since we are still in the early implementation phase of Watershed Coordination in the SCWP, evaluation will need to be near-term, flexible and output focused. Much of this third year of Watershed Coordination will be focused on learning from the previous two years how watershed coordination can be most impactful, developing relationships and trust with interested parties, acting as a facilitator and connector for potential project opportunities, and learning how watershed coordination can best support successful implementation of the SCWP in the ULAR.

We see the following measures as being most informative for shaping watershed coordination going forward. These measures of success or evaluation measures were developed based on input we heard during our surveys and interviews with ULAR WASC members:

- Project concepts developed for the Technical Resource Program pipeline.
- Strategies and examples of projects with “synergistic benefit,” both meeting water compliance and investing in community to address community priorities.
- Partnerships formed between city agencies and community-based organizations through collaborating on the development of project opportunities.
- Projects that embed community engagement from the beginning, and along each step of the process.
- Tools and resources from other regional efforts and programs capitalized on for the benefit of the ULAR Watershed Area, and databases created that effectively track project opportunities and the watershed area interested party network.
- Events successfully conducted across the watershed area and with meaningful outcomes that reflect community priorities are shared back to the ULAR WASC and District staff.
- External funding sources and cost share partners identified and connected to project opportunities.
- Nature-based solutions which promote public health and ecological health incorporated into proposed projects.



Watershed Coordinator, Carlos Moran, leads a tour of Earvin "Magic" Johnson Recreation Area with Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education (SCOPE) in December 2022.



## Reporting

The Watershed Coordination Team will continue to provide regular reporting on Plan execution, materials generated, and a summary of both quantitative and qualitative accomplishments to the District and the ULAR WASC. These Progress Reports will be prepared each month. Quarterly reports that review the results achieved each three month period will also be prepared. Finally, a summary report detailing the previous 12 months of work will be submitted on an annual basis. Metrics from the Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan will be reviewed and adjusted to improve the quantification of the program accomplishments and input from ULAR WASC members will be solicited and included in this review and evaluation process.

## Scope of the Watershed Coordinators' Role

Much of the first year was spent learning how watershed coordination can be most impactful, developing relationships and trust with interested parties, and acting as a facilitator and connector for potential project opportunities.

The following updated table lays out the scope of the Watershed Coordinators' role as we see it.

Our role is focused on:	Our role is less focused on:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying project opportunities, facilitating the development of these into project concepts, and moving them through the Technical Resource Program pipeline.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing resources to projects which are already funded through the infrastructure program or who have the relevant technical resources to apply to the infrastructure program.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing recommendations and facilitation of community engagement practices, and identifying and supporting CBO partners in conducting community engagement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducting the on-the-ground community outreach and engagement for each individual project.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying opportunities for educational programming and raising awareness of the SCWP.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducting education campaigns about the SCWP, developing curriculum, and marketing the SCWP.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communicating community priorities we've heard to the WASC and encouraging community participation in the ULAR Watershed Area process.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speaking for the community.</li> </ul>

## V. Strategies

The work plan for Watershed Coordinators consists of nine tasks, Tasks 1-9.

- Task 1: Facilitate Community Engagement in Safe, Clean Water Program
- Task 2: Identify and Develop Project Concepts
- Task 3: Work with Technical Assistance Teams
- Task 4: Facilitate Identification and Representation of Community Priorities
- Task 5: Integrate Priorities through Partnerships and Extensive Networks
- Task 6: Cost-share Partners
- Task 7: Leverage Funding
- Task 8: Local Stakeholder Education
- Task 9: Watershed Coordinator Collaboration

This updated Strategic Outreach and Implementation Plan (SOEP) is a key element of Task 1. The strategies laid out in this plan will lend themselves to an open stakeholder communication path resulting in a portfolio of diverse stakeholder perspectives, community strengths and needs, and project opportunities for consideration. Given the complex makeup of the ULAR region, engagement strategies will differ by area and need to be tailored based on the community we are working within. Tasks 1-9 will be accomplished with the strategies presented across the following five focus areas in the subsequent pages.

- 1. Stakeholder Collaboration** - Engage municipalities, community groups and interested parties within the watershed.
- 2. Project Development** - Develop project opportunities to be considered for the Technical Assistance Program
- 3. Diverse Representation** - Ensure diverse perspectives are integrated by the District and WASC.
- 4. Inclusive Engagement** - Ensure the involvement of members of historically underrepresented and environmentally & economically stressed communities in the watershed.
- 5. Education & Awareness** - Support educational programming that promotes awareness of community issues and the SCWP.

As part of their work plan, the Watershed Coordinators will each be hosting four outreach events each for a total of 12 outreach events, and two educational events for a total of six educational events across the ULAR Watershed Area over the next year. These events may range from large- scale workshops to local community meetings and events.

## FOCUS AREA 1: STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION

Engage municipalities, community groups and interested parties within the watershed

### Goals

- Build public awareness of the Safe, Clean Water Program and ULAR WASC ongoing progress.
- Cultivate relationships that support project identification and ongoing coordination.
- Create awareness of and support for projects under consideration by the ULAR WASC.

General Strategies	EOS	CWH
<b>Collateral Materials Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Produce culturally competent engagement materials and tools that will generate discussion around project opportunities and partnerships.</li> <li>• Methods of communication may include social media, infographics, story maps, newsletters, e-mail briefings, photo libraries, fact sheets, animations, and community calendars.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>Prevent Engagement Burnout</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyze external engagement efforts and integrate meetings to maximize engagement benefits while reducing community “burnout” from multiple outreach efforts.</li> </ul>	Support	Lead
<b>Collaborate Across Watersheds</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate with other Watershed Coordinators and SCWP staff.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>School Engagement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involve schools and school districts in the SCWP and collaborate with other regional Watershed Coordinators on this effort.</li> </ul>	Support	Lead
<b>Direct Outreach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present the SCW Program at community meetings, neighborhood events, and topic-specific gatherings. Example of events include neighborhood council meetings, street clean-ups, beautification events, resource fairs, volunteer events, neighborhood watch meetings, cultural events, conferences, farmers markets catering to targeted groups; after-church pop-ups; platicas (talks) with evening or weekend neighborhood gatherings; Parent Teacher Association meetings discussing campus improvements; etc.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>E-Newsletter</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide updates on the Safe, Clean Water Program through an <a href="#">electronic newsletter</a> sent to stakeholders.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead

Continued on next page

Focus Area 1 continued

General Strategies	EOS	CWH
<b>Public Sector Outreach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage local, state, and federal electeds and agency departments to inform them of local projects to ensure buy-in and bridge ideas and priorities across external funding efforts that run parallel to the SCWP.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>Outreach Through Parallel Efforts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outreach through parallel programming that may include community science events (ex: bioblitz), community newsletters and existing community based programming (ex: Promotora Model/Community Health Worker Model).</li> </ul>	Support	Lead
<b>Social Media Outreach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain a social media outreach presence, utilizing platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to push out information to interested stakeholders.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>Community Tours</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organize community tours, to be hosted by local public agencies and project leads, where stakeholders are invited to tour existing projects so that they can develop an understanding of the types of projects that could benefit their communities.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>Network Database</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build off the groups identified in <a href="#">Section III</a>. Interested Parties to further develop a thorough database of interested parties spanning local, state, and federal agencies, both environmental and non-water focused CBOs, nonprofit organizations, Tribal governments and organizations, school districts and schools, higher education institutions, local government and elected officials, labor groups, etc.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead

Tujunga Spreading Grounds, March 2023



## FOCUS AREA 2: PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Develop project opportunities to be considered for the Technical Assistance Program

### Goals

- Identify local priorities and needs.
- Introduce project opportunities to the Technical Assistance Program.
- Identify and develop project concepts for consideration by the WASC.

General Strategies	EOS	CWH
<b>Continue Input Gathering</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather input from community events throughout the ULAR region. See <a href="#">Focus Area 1</a> for type of events.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>Identify Project Opportunities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify project opportunities utilizing a mixed method approach that evaluates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Input from ongoing engagement activities across multiple stakeholder groups</li> <li>◦ Data and information gathered from existing planning efforts (ex: IRWM DACIP Needs Assessment, Upper LA River and Tributaries Revitalization, LA River Master Plan, Tujunga Wash WMP, Arroyo Seco WMP, Compton Creek WMP)</li> <li>◦ Existing baseline conditions for the watershed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Support	Lead
<b>Project Intake Form</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain, adapt and assess feasibility to use the Survey123 project intake form to collect project opportunity information.</li> </ul>	Support	Lead
<b>Leverage Relationships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leverage existing relationships to cultivate partnerships between municipalities, Council of Governments, SCWP specific working groups, and both environmental and non-water focused CBOs/NGOs, tribes and tribal organizations, working locally that have established trust and a connection to their community to identify and develop community-informed multi-benefit project concepts and work through obstacles.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>Connecting Interested Parties</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connect interested parties with the network of water agencies, CBOs, community leaders, and subject matter experts that can help accelerate project ideas and provide educational programming to support shared project goals.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead

Continued on next page



Focus Area 2 continued

General Strategies	EOS	CWH
<b>Connecting Cost Share Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and connect project concepts to outside funding sources and cost share partners. This may include hosting a funders fair or bringing funders on tours to project sites.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>Technical Resource Program Engagement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce existing community informed project opportunities to the SCWP Technical Resources Program.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead



Clockwise from top left: Tour of the Tujunga Spreading Grounds, March 2023. Top right: Earvin "Magic" Johnson Recreation Area, February 2023. Bottom right: Earvin "Magic" Johnson Recreation Area, February 2023. Bottom left: Elmer Paseo in Sun Valley, November, 2022.



## FOCUS AREA 3: DIVERSE REPRESENTATION

Ensure diverse perspectives are integrated by the District and WASC

### Goals

- Support advancement of community priorities in project concepts.
- Inform a shared watershed agenda.

General Strategies	EOS	CWH
<b>Share Diverse Perspectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilize written, verbal and visual communication styles to share the diverse perspectives gathered through data sets, reports and outreach events (as defined in <a href="#">Focus Area 1</a>) with the ULAR WASC and District.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>Cultivate Diverse Group of Partnerships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultivate partnerships with a broad audience of community representatives, CBOs, youth and adult social service agencies, mental health providers, homeless and housing providers, faith-based organizations, Native American Tribes and communities, municipalities, school districts, local business owners, and to the extent possible the public at large. (<a href="#">Refer to Section III</a>)</li> </ul>	Support	Lead
<b>Identify Diverse Community Needs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use relationships and engagement with non-water focused CBOs discussed in <a href="#">Focus Area 1</a> &amp; <a href="#">2</a> to ensure that the WASC and District gain perspective on the diversity of community needs.</li> </ul>	Support	Lead
<b>Support CBOs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When possible subcontract with CBOs' partners to provide outreach, engagement and water education support.</li> </ul>	Support	Lead
<b>Data Analysis to Understand Community Needs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilize existing datasets and tools that offer insight into the diversity of ULAR communities, what investment, or lack thereof, has looked like historically and continually to inform the WASC's decision making. Examples of tools and reports include the LA County Community Health Profiles; LA County Park Needs Assessment; CalEnviroScreen 4.0, GLAC IRWM DACIP Community Needs and Strength Assessment.</li> </ul>	Support	Lead

## FOCUS AREA 4: INCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT

Ensure the involvement of members of historically underrepresented and environmentally & economically stressed communities in the watershed

### Goals

- Integrate expressed community priorities into Stormwater Investment Plans.

General Strategies	EOS	CWH
<b>Connect Localized Concerns with SCWP</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connect localized, non-water concerns back to the SCWP program goals; discuss opportunities; share ideas to develop project concepts; connect to TA opportunities; memorialize priorities; promote a collaborative agenda with the SCWP.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>Deploy Engagement BMPs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate community engagement best practices and lessons learned from the IRWM DACIP community engagement process. Take guidance from the <a href="#">2022 SCWP Interim Guidance</a><sup>1</sup> on Strengthening Community Engagement and Support.</li> </ul>	Support	Lead
<b>Leverage Existing CBO Relationships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leverage existing relationships with key community representatives to find a common language between community priorities and watershed management, integrating community and cultural norms into facilitated discussions, learning from CBO-led adaptive community engagement strategies brought on by COVID-19 restrictions, and connecting with existing community resources to remove potential barriers such as transportation, interpretive services, child care, and other basic needs.</li> </ul>	Support	Lead
<b>Watershed Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building on <a href="#">Focus Area 1</a> &amp; <a href="#">2</a> strategies to include watershed learning opportunities. For example, the WC Team may participate in neighborhood trash clean-ups and incorporate educational activities on stormwater pollution or present to a wellness group about the public health benefits of a healthy watershed.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead

<sup>1</sup> Safe, Clean Water Program's [2022 Interim Guidance](#), Strengthening Community Engagement and Support. May 2022.

## FOCUS AREA 5: EDUCATION & AWARENESS

Support educational programming that promotes awareness of community issues and the SCWP

### Goals

- Advance understanding of the SCWP across the watershed.
- Advance the understanding of community issues and priorities within the ULAR WASC.

General Strategies	EOS	CWH
<b>Community Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In collaboration with the larger SCWP education program, the WC team will coordinate the integration of education and marketing materials into community education efforts and identify how educational programming can connect community issues (safety, public health, job creation) back to water.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>Water Education and SCWP Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share SCWP program updates and reinforce educational Water 101 concepts through online and on ground strategies identified in <a href="#">Focus Area 1</a> &amp; <a href="#">2</a>.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>CBO Partnerships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work in partnership with local CBOs to hold educational events (activity-based, if possible) on water topics and the SCW Program.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>Share Outcomes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share outcomes of the educational events to the WASC and County.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead
<b>Collaborate Across Watersheds</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When and if appropriate, collaborate with educational events in areas that span more than one watershed area. Coordinate and collaborate with other subregion Watershed Coordinators to share tools, strategies, and lessons learned.</li> </ul>	Co-lead	Co-lead

Earvin "Magic" Johnson Recreation Area in Los Angeles, CA.



## VI. Identifying Collaborative Efforts

### Sharing Watershed Area Boundaries

The ULAR Watershed Area shares boundaries with seven of the nine watershed areas across Los Angeles County. The ULAR Watershed Coordination Team will meet regularly with the watershed coordinators from these neighboring areas.

Committee Member Type	Affiliation
Santa Clara River Watershed Area	Unincorporated Los Angeles County
North Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area	City of Calabasas City of Los Angeles
Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area	City of Los Angeles
South Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area	City of Los Angeles Unincorporated Los Angeles County
Lower Los Angeles River Watershed Area	No cities shared
Rio Hondo Watershed Area	City of Alhambra City of Monterey Park City of Pasadena City of South Pasadena Unincorporated Los Angeles County
Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Area	Unincorporated Los Angeles County



## Safe, Clean Water Municipal Program

In addition to the Regional Program arm of the Safe, Clean Water Program, there is also a Municipal Program arm to the Safe, Clean Water Program. The Municipal Program receives approximately \$114 million annually (Figure 9).

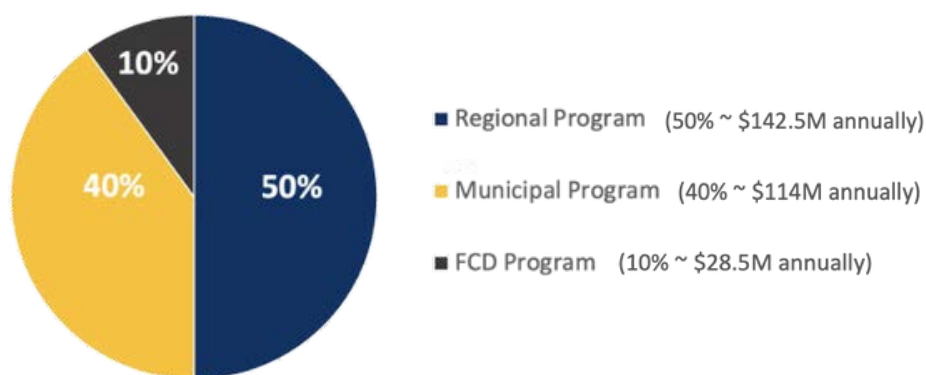


Figure 9. Safe, Clean Water Program breakdown of funds between program arms. Source: Stantec Regional Coordination Team.

Each of the cities in Los Angeles County directly receive a proportion of the funds generated through the Safe, Clean Water Program. To receive these funds, each city must submit a Municipal Transfer Agreement to be approved by Los Angeles County. There is an opportunity to align and leverage both the Municipal Program and Regional Program funds when putting forth competitive project concepts.



Left to right: BizFed Water Forum, March 2023. Middle: Nothin' But Water June INLAND Cleanup, June 2023. Right: LA County Fair, May 2023

## Ongoing Regional Coordination

The Watershed Coordinators will continuously identify and coordinate with other ongoing regional programs and efforts over the course of the year. A few of these relevant regional programs that the Watershed Coordinators have already identified, been involved with, and/or will be reaching out to include:

### Tribal Engagement and Collaboration with Native American Tribes

The active presence of the Fernandeño Tataviam, Gabrielino Tongva, Ventureño Chumash, and Gabrielino Kizh tribes in the ULAR Watershed Area calls for the WC Team to engage Tribal Councils and communities across the region. The WC Team will focus on identifying overlaps and collaboration efforts that increase tribal participation and influence with the ULAR WASC. WC's will engage tribes from the region and tribal representative groups.. Specifically the team will align SCWP goals and investments with the project development and implementation efforts of the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians.

### IRWM DACIP

The WC Team will identify overlaps and potential collaboration with the parallel Greater LA County (GLAC) IRWM DACIP Program to coordinate engagement, sync messaging, identify projects, assess needs, and ensure involvement of underrepresented communities. The program engages disadvantaged, tribal and underrepresented communities to identify local water issues and then provides Technical Assistance support to develop water education programming and infrastructure projects to address those needs.

The DACIP needs assessment and technical assistance tasks overlapped with the first SOEP from FY 21-22. Data gathered and lessons learned from the needs assessment continues to inform the current updated SOEP.

The WC Team will coordinate efforts with the Greater LA IRWM Region Task Force as they prepare for the Round 2 IRWM implementation funding. As part of the Task 4 Technical Assistance task, IRWM DACIP will help supply technical resources to the ULAR Watershed Area around project development opportunities for consideration by both SCWP and IRWM. This overlap of efforts creates an opportunity to sync engagement events where appropriate, leverage strategies, priorities, and funding recommendations that are developed specifically through the IRWM DACIP process.



Watershed Coordinator, Kristina Kreter, gathers notes from community members on their environmental concerns for their neighborhood. April 2023.



## **ULAR EWMP**

Through the Los Angeles County MS4 Permit, Permittees can develop and voluntarily participate in Watershed Management Programs (WMPs) to implement the requirements of the Permit on a watershed scale through customized strategies, control measures, and best management practices (BMPs) to comply with receiving water limitations, total maximum daily loads (TMDLs), non-stormwater discharge prohibitions, and minimum control measures. The SCWP ULAR Watershed Area falls within the Upper Los Angeles River Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (ULAR EWMP) area. The ULAR EWMP Implementation Strategy identifies the location and type of BMPs to be implemented across the entire ULAR EWMP area by 2028. Green streets make up 30% of the total BMP capacity. Low Impact Development (LID) BMPs make up 14% of the available capacity, which includes private and residential land. According to the EWMP the total capacity of LID, green streets and regional BMPs are to be implemented by each jurisdiction by 2037 (Appendix VII). The Watershed Coordinators will reference and utilize the EWMP Strategic Implementation Plan to help coordinate project opportunities and prioritize and set activities in place to support each city in meeting their targets through multi-benefit stormwater projects.

## **InfrastructureLA**

On April 5, 2022, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Executive Officer and the Director of Public Works, in conjunction with other departments, to launch the Infrastructure Initiative. The objective of the Infrastructure Initiative is to maximize the County's share of federal infrastructure spending available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for both regional and unincorporated areas, with an emphasis on projects that advance equity, sustainability, and climate resilience goals. InfrastructureLA seeks to advance the development of 21st century infrastructure through cross-sector collaboration and coalition building. We work with infrastructure stakeholders to pursue funding opportunities, advocate for community-focused infrastructure, and to share strategies and tools for addressing infrastructure needs.

## **WHAM**

County Measure W (Safe, Clean Water Program), Measure H (Homeless Initiative), Measure A (Safe, Clean Neighborhood Parks and Beaches), and Measure M (Traffic Improvement Plan) provide opportunities to pair funding from multiple measures to fund multi-benefit projects (referred to as WHAM). The Board of Supervisors created a WHAM Taskforce to encourage agencies implementing these measures to collaborate on multibenefit projects and create a 10x10 list of projects which identify opportunities to utilize more than one measure. Measure J, Reimagine LA County passed in 2020, presents another opportunity to coordinate projects and programs across County measures. The Watershed Coordinators will track outcomes from the WHAM Task Force and regional outreach through Los Angeles County Measures (H, A, M, and J) to identify collaborative strategies.

### [OurCounty Sustainability Plan](#)

The OurCounty Sustainability Plan is a regional sustainability plan for Los Angeles County developed by the Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office. The Plan outlines what local governments and interested parties can do “to enhance the well-being of every community in Los Angeles County while reducing damage to the natural environment and adapting to the changing climate, particularly focusing on those communities that have been disproportionately burdened by environmental pollution. This plan envisions streets and parks that are accessible, safe, and welcoming to everyone; air, water, and soil that are clean and healthy; affordable housing that enables all residents to thrive in place; and a just economy that runs on renewable energy instead of fossil fuels.”

### [LA County Water Plan](#)

A plan in development by Los Angeles County Public Works to “think holistically and regionally about our water resources – fostering collaboration among stormwater, potable water, and recycled water stakeholders to identify opportunities for integrated solutions.” This plan will be informed by meetings with stakeholder groups and community workshops. The WCs will continue to track the development of this plan and identify overlaps with the SCWP.

### [LA River Master Plan Update](#)

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors directed Public Works to work with other County Departments to update the LA River Master Plan for the first time in over 20 years in 2016. The update to the Plan, which was approved in June of 2022, has been a multi-year process involving community meetings and a Steering Committee to ensure diverse interests along the river are represented in laying the groundwork for the next 25 years of investment along and within the river. The vision of the Plan is “for the LA River to become 51 miles of connected public open space that provides landmark opportunities to reduce flood risk and improve resiliency, support healthy and connected ecosystems, address potential adverse impacts to housing affordability and people experiencing homelessness, promote healthy, safe clean water, and create jobs while fostering opportunities for arts, culture, and community engagement.” The Los Angeles County’s 2020 LA River Master Plan identifies over 200 potential project sites that will create local jobs, publicly accessible open space that will help address public health issues, especially in environmentally- and economically-stressed communities, solutions to mitigate future climate disasters and enhance ecosystem function, actions for affordable housing, homelessness, and addressing displacement in areas vulnerable to gentrification.



Left: Normandie Avenue Elementary, Los Angeles, January 2023. Right: Earvin "Magic" Johnson Recreation Area, February 2023.

## Proposition O

Proposition O was passed by Los Angeles voters in 2004. The passage authorized the City of Los Angeles to expend \$500 million on projects that prevent pollution, improve water quality of rivers, lakes, beaches, bays, and the ocean, conserve water, and protect public safety while meeting Federal Clean Water Act regulations. The Watershed Coordinators will take note of Proposition O funded, completed, and in progress project locations and the impact these locations have on any potential project opportunities through the SCWP. A map of all completed Proposition O projects is provided in Appendix VII. The Watershed Coordinators will utilize lessons learned and experience gained through working on Proposition O to inform the work with the SCWP.

## Los Angeles River Watershed Monitoring Program (LARWMP)

The Los Angeles River Watershed Monitoring Program (LARWMP) was developed in 2007 by a group of stakeholders representing major permittees, regulatory and management agencies, and conservation groups. At the time, the majority of monitoring efforts were focused on compliance monitoring, presenting an opportunity to better coordinate ongoing monitoring efforts and promote collaboration between stakeholders of the Los Angeles River. Prior to the LARWMP, little was known about the baseline condition of streams throughout the watershed. This collaborative program, majority funded by the Cities of Los Angeles and Burbank and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and managed by the Council for Watershed Health, provides a framework for comprehensive, periodic assessments of watershed health, and creates opportunities to align monitoring efforts with management and public priorities. To provide a better understanding of the health of Los Angeles River Watershed as an integrated system and how it is changing, the LARWMP generates annual monitoring data. Yearly monitoring efforts culminate in an annual report and every five years is synthesized into a State of the Watershed Report.

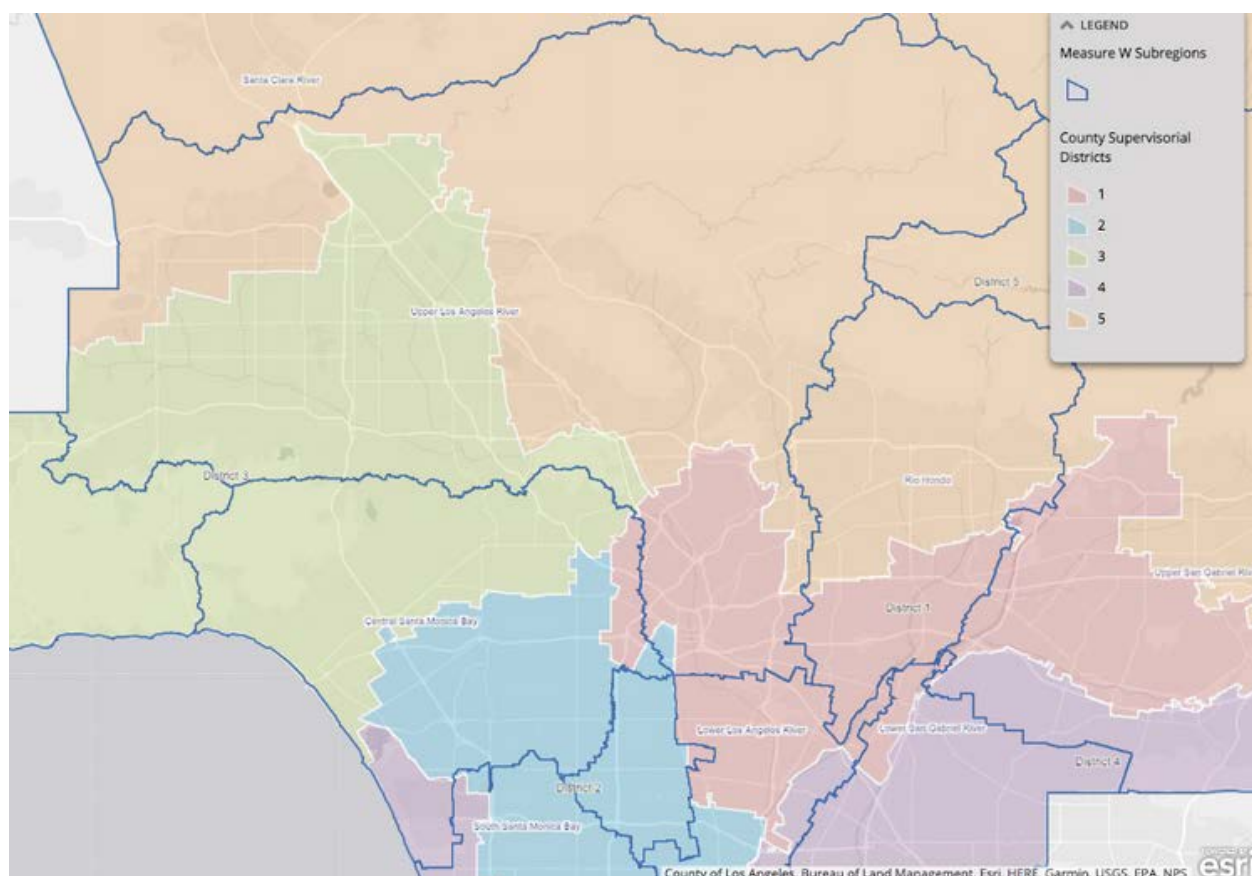


Central-Jefferson Green Alley network in Los Angeles, CA. The project included "renovations to approximately 0.62 linear miles of alley." Trust for Public Land. Photo on the left courtesy of LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN) and Trust for Public Land (TPL). Photo on the right from the May 2023 tour of the Central-Jefferson Green Alley network.



# Appendices

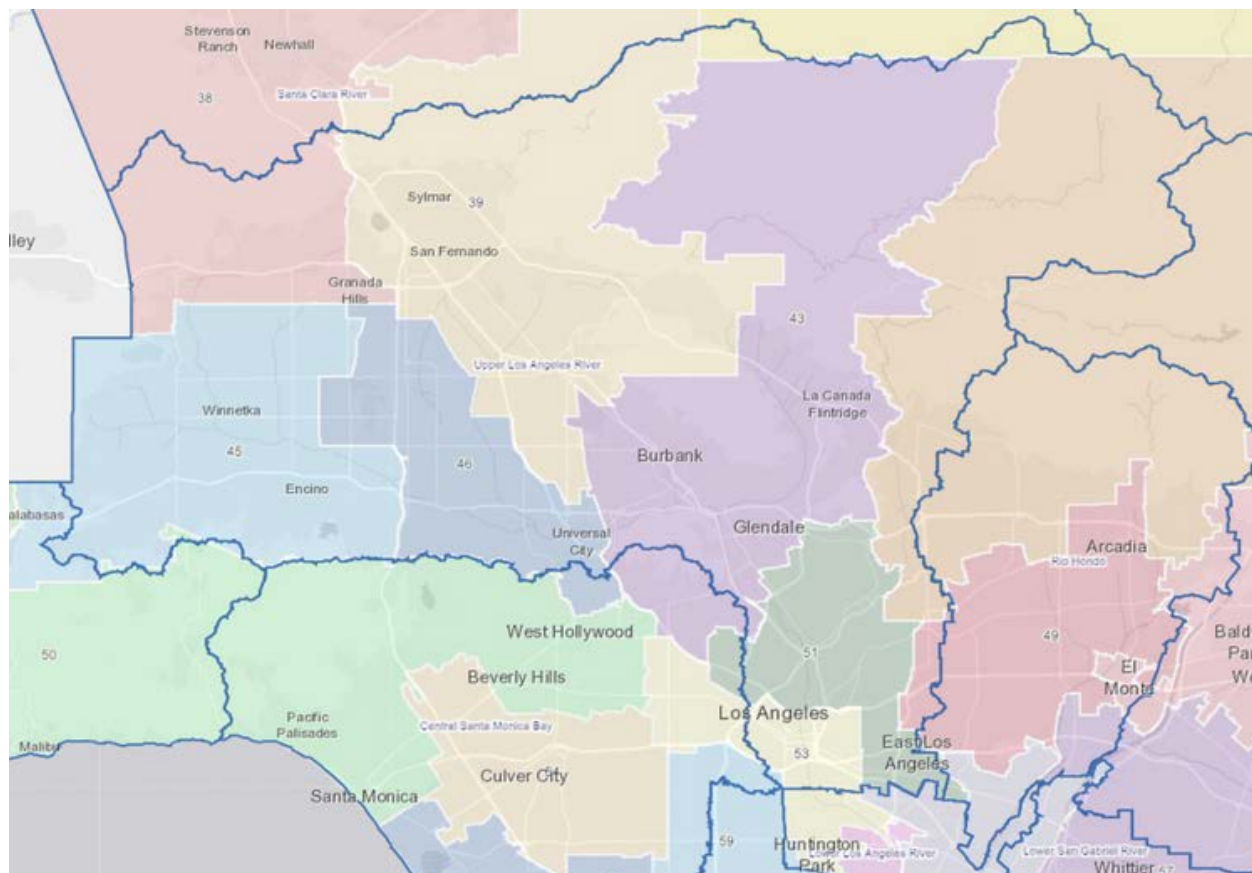
## Appendix I.



County Supervisorial Districts within the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area.

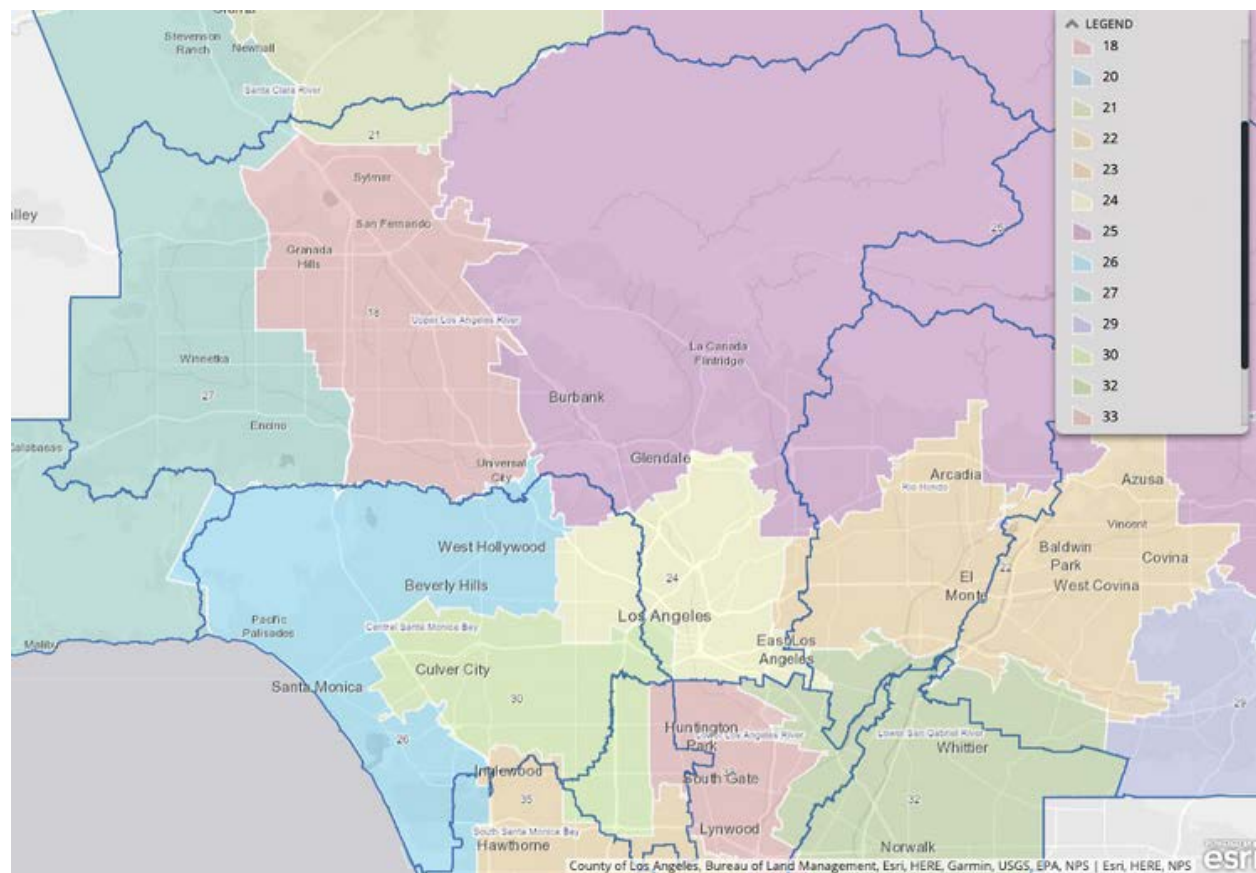
Source: OurWaterLA, Water Leader Resources, MEASURE W: Safe Clean Water L.A. Map

## Appendix II.



State Assembly Districts within the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area.  
Source: OurWaterLA, Water Leader Resources, MEASURE W: Safe Clean Water L.A. Map

## Appendix III.

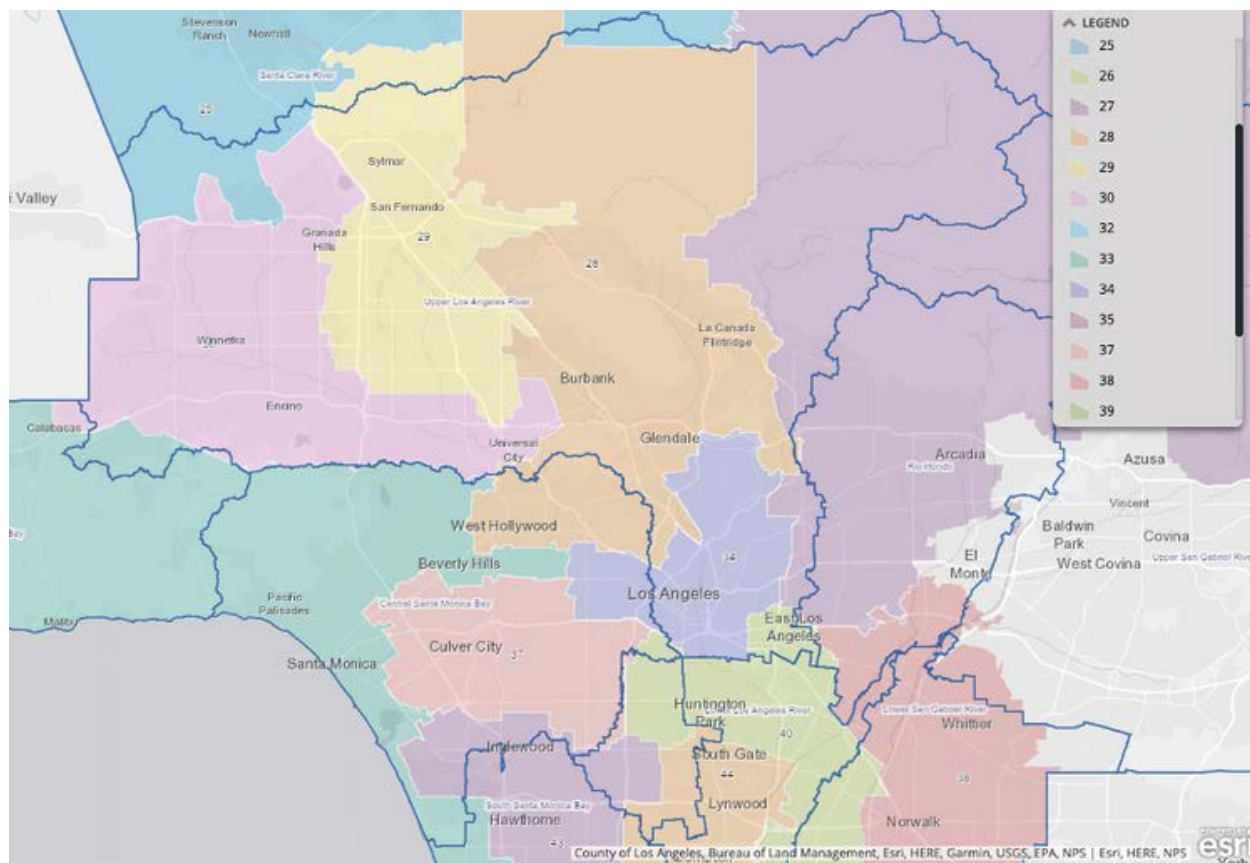


State Senate Districts within the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area.

Source: OurWaterLA, Water Leader Resources, MEASURE W: Safe Clean Water L.A. Map



## Appendix IV.



U.S. Congressional Districts within the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area.  
Source: OurWaterLA, Water Leader Resources, MEASURE W: Safe Clean Water L.A. Map

## Appendix V.

Summary of Community Health Profiles compiled by the Los Angeles Department of Public Health which are relevant for the communities and jurisdictions in the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area.

	LA County	Western ULAR								
		Calabasas	CD 3	CD 12	CD5	CD 6	CD 7	San Fernando	CD 2	CD4
Population:		24,182	267,182	271,125	264,057	283,654	278,658	24,465	265,068	260,788
Population Age										
0-17 years	23%	20%	22%	18%	17%	26%	25%	27%	21%	16%
18-64 years	65%	64%	64%	65%	68%	65%	64%	63%	67%	70%
65+ years	13%	16%	14%	17%	15%	9%	11%	10%	12%	14%
Race/Ethnicity										
Black	8.46%	1.52%	4.30%	4.12%	3.69%	3.28%	3.55%	0.65%	4.06%	4.56%
Latinx	48.76%	6.62%	39.57%	28.35%	11.12%	71.93%	70.98%	92.86%	46.80%	16.13%
White	28.04%	82.61%	42.97%	47.87%	69.14%	15.11%	19.21%	5.29%	41.94%	63.10%
Asian	14.31%	9.11%	12.89%	19.38%	15.84%	9.42%	5.99%	0.85%	6.96%	16.02%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.19%	0.13%	0.16%	0.16%	0.12%	0.17%	0.20%	0.28%	0.15%	0.13%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.24%	0.02%	0.10%	0.12%	0.09%	0.08%	0.07%	0.07%	0.10%	0.07%
Foreign-born residents (%):	35%	26%	41%	32%	30%	47%	40%	37%	39%	31%
High School Graduates:	77%	97%	81%	90%	95%	64%	68%	58%	80%	94%
Median Household Income:	\$56,196	\$106,050	\$66,266	\$80,913	\$84,058	\$45,481	\$57,352	\$55,170	\$52,281	\$77,274
Employed adults in labor force (%):	92%	94%	93%	93%	93%	90%	91%	91%	90%	92%
Available recreation space (acres/1,000 people)	8.1	3.26	2.38	2.44	0.56	1.78	2.76	0.99	1.5	16.23
People living in close proximity to grocery store (%):	62%	20%	61%	48%	75%	73%	49%	74%	69%	70%
Homeowners (%)	46%	70%	49%	69%	39%	38%	60%	54%	34%	34%
Renters (%)	54%	30%	51%	32%	61%	63%	40%	46%	66%	66%
Individuals experiencing homelessness:		0	890	906	913	1856	1206	24	1084	628
Children with diagnosed asthma (%):	7%	unavailable	7%	6%	7%	7%	7%	6%	7%	7%
Serious Crimes (per 100,000 people)	551	62	412.8	284.4	252.6	472.8	361	539.6	389.3	321.3
CA Clean Environment Score	n/a	85th percentile (lower pollution burden)	40th percentile (high-medium pollution burden)	36th percentile (high-medium pollution burden)	25th percentile (higher pollution burden)	21st percentile (higher pollution burden)	27th percentile (high-medium pollution burden)	24th percentile (higher pollution burden)	13th percentile (higher pollution burden)	19th percentile (higher pollution burden)
Adults with diagnosed depression (%):	9%	14%	9%	8%	13%	6%	7%	8%	10%	12%
CA Healthy Places Index Score:	n/a	92nd percentile (more healthy community conditions)	48th percentile (few-medium healthy community conditions)	69th percentile (medium-more healthy community conditions)	76th percentile (more healthy community conditions)	21st percentile (fewer healthy community conditions)	31st percentile (few-medium healthy community conditions)	41st percentile (few-medium healthy community conditions)	40th percentile (medium healthy conditions)	72nd percentile (medium-more healthy community conditions)

Continued on next page

Appendix VII continued

0-17 years	18%	17%	21%	19%	23%	21%	20%	18%	17%	29%
18-64 years	67%	65%	62%	70%	65%	66%	65%	65%	62%	61%
65+ years	15%	18%	17%	12%	11%	12%	15%	17%	21%	10%
Race/Ethnicity										
Black	2.49%	1.20%	23.74%	3.22%	2.76%	5.84%	2.79%	1.33%	0.33%	0.29%
Latinx	25.51%	17.55%	29.05%	54.24%	70.6%	68.19%	19.32%	34.35%	27.43%	96.91%
White	59.18%	63.82%	41.29%	23.76%	8.29%	12.86%	43.32%	9.13%	4.58%	1.85%
Asian	12.56%	17.27%	5.53%	18.52%	18.1%	12.79%	34.43%	54.98%	67.54%	0.80%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.18%	0.10%	0.19%	0.17%	0.17%	0.25%	0.11%	0.14%	0.10%	0.14%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.07%	0.05%	0.20%	0.08%	0.08%	0.07%	0.02%	0.07%	0.03%	0.01%
Foreign-born residents (%):	34%	54%	20%	50%	52%	38%	27%	50%	54%	42%
High School Graduates:	89%	84%	89%	74%	57%	66%	95%	81%	79%	47%
Median Household Income:	\$66,076	\$52,574	\$86,050	\$39,448	\$34,896	\$45,157	\$78,957	\$53,582	\$54,097	\$38,766
Employed adults in labor force (%):	92%	91%	92%	90%	91%	91%	96%	94%	91%	89%
Available recreation space (acres/1,000 people)	8.22	8.37	1.1	0.84	2.69	1.05	1.55	0.77	1.44	0.73
People living in close proximity to grocery store (%):	66%	75%	45%	85%	89%	64%	68%	52%	54%	53%
Homeowners (%)	41%	35%	72%	14%	18%	33%	44%	40%	52%	34%
Renters (%)	59%	65%	28%	86%	82%	67%	57%	60%	48%	66%
Individuals experiencing houselessness:	167	240	58	3036	1986	5590	9	64	7	288
Children with diagnosed asthma (%):	6%	6%	9%	5%	4%	unavailable	5%	4%	7%	7%
Serious Crimes (per 100,000 people)	200.6	112.6	162.3	718.5	667.5	1051.4	104.1	168.4	214.3	480.1
CA Clean Environment Score	5th percentile (higher pollution burden)	1st percentile (high pollution burden)	62nd percentile (medium-low pollution burden)	3rd percentile (high pollution burden)	6th percentile (higher pollution burden)	24th percentile (higher pollution burden)	38th percentile (high-medium pollution burden)	6th percentile (high pollution burden)	4th percentile (higher pollution burden)	3rd percentile (high pollution burden)
Adults with diagnosed depression (%):	10%	10%	11%	9%	7%	10%	9%	5%	4%	8%
CA Healthy Places Index Score:	62nd percentile (medium health conditions)	46th percentile (low-medium healthy community conditions)	76th percentile (more healthy community conditions)	23rd percentile (fewer healthy community conditions)	10th percentile (fewer healthy community conditions)	24th percentile (fewer healthy community conditions)	87th percentile (more healthy community conditions)	43rd percentile (some healthy community conditions)	32nd percentile (few-medium healthy community conditions)	6th percentile (few healthy community conditions)

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# Appendix VII continued

	Southern ULAR				
	partial	partial	partial		
	<a href="#">CD 9</a>	<a href="#">CD 8</a>	<a href="#">CD 15</a>	<a href="#">Westmont</a>	<a href="#">Florence-Firestone</a>
Population:	285,373	252,296	269,467	32,835	65,822
Population Age					
0-17 years	30%	26%	27%	28%	31%
18-64 years	64%	63%	62%	62%	61%
65+ years	6%	10%	11%	10%	7%
Race/Ethnicity					
Black	15.12%	39.96%	12.72%	49.45%	8.93%
Latinx	79.18%	56.66%	63.77%	49.12%	90.12%
White	3.19%	1.77%	16.34%	0.96%	0.74%
Asian	2.40%	1.37%	6.48%	0.25%	0.11%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.09%	0.16%	0.22%	0.12%	0.07%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.02%	0.07%	0.48%	0.09%	0.02%
Foreign-born residents (%):	43%	32%	32%	23%	43%
High School Graduates:	45%	64%	69%	70%	41%
Median Household Income:	\$28,614	\$32,922	\$46,423	\$26,808	\$33,934
Employed adults in labor force (%):	91%	88%	90%	86%	91%
Available recreation space (acres/1,000 people)	0.33	0.53	2.56	0.06	1.03
People living in close proximity to grocery store (%):	84%	58%	52%	20%	97%
Homeowners (%)	27%	37%	40%	31%	34%
Renters (%)	73%	63%	60%	69%	66%
Individuals experiencing houselessness:	3458	1497	1773	365	543
Children with diagnosed asthma (%):	6%	9%	7%	unavailable	8%
Serious Crimes (per 100,000 people)	1120.3	1497.8	696.6	1513.6	800.6
CA Clean Environment Score	8th percentile (higher pollution burden)	32nd percentile (medium-high pollution burden)	66th percentile (medium-low pollution burden)	69th percentile (medium-low pollution burden)	37th percentile (medium-high pollution burden)
Adults with diagnosed depression (%):	8%	6%	8%	7%	7%
CA Healthy Places Index Score:	0th percentile (fewer healthy community conditions)	2nd percentile (fewer healthy community conditions)	20th percentile (fewer healthy community conditions)	1st percentile (fewer healthy community conditions)	3rd percentile (fewer healthy community conditions)



## Appendix VI.

Summary of the [Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Area Steering Committee](#) membership.

**Paul Shadmani**, LA County Flood Control District (Agency)

**Delon Kwan**, LA Department of Water and Power (Agency)

**Jesus Gonzalez**, LA Department of Water and Power (Agency)

**Ida Meisami-Fard**, LA Sanitation & Environment (Agency)

**Cathie Santo Domingo**, LA Recreation & Parks (Agency)

**Ernesto Pantoja**, Laborers Local 300 (Community)

**Miguel Luna**, Urban Semillas (Community)

Vacant (Community)

**Max Liles**, Michael Baker International (Community)

**Veronica Padilla-Campos**, Pacoima Beautiful (Community)

**Yazdan Emrani**, Glendale (Municipal)

**Patrick DeChellis**, La Cañada Flintridge (Municipal)

**Teresa Villegas\***, Los Angeles (Municipal)

**Karo Torossian**, Los Angeles (Municipal)

**Rafael Prieto**, Los Angeles (Municipal)

**Mark Lombos**, Los Angeles County (Municipal)

**Kenneth Jones**, San Fernando (Municipal)

**Adi Liberman**, Environmental Outreach Strategies (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

**Kristina Kreter**, Council for Watershed Health (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

**Carlos Moran**, Council for Watershed Health (Watershed Coordinator, non-voting member)

\* Chair    \*\* Vice Chair

## Appendix VII.

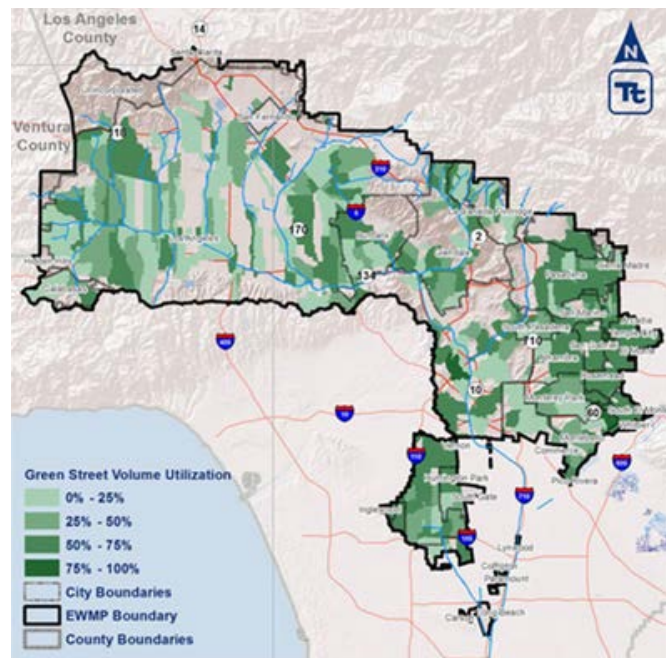
The Upper Los Angeles River Enhanced Watershed Management Plan Implementation Strategy for Final Compliance by 2037:



Types of projects identified in the Upper Los Angeles River Enhanced Watershed Management Plan Implementation Strategy for Final Compliance by 2037 includes:

### Green Streets

Distributed structural practices that are typically implemented as linear bioretention/biofiltration practices installed parallel to roadways. Green streets have been demonstrated to provide “complete streets” benefits in addition to stormwater management, including pedestrian safety and traffic calming, street tree canopy and heat island effect mitigation, increased property values, and even reduced crime rates. The ULAR EWMP Implementation Strategy identified a high percentage of planned green street retrofits.

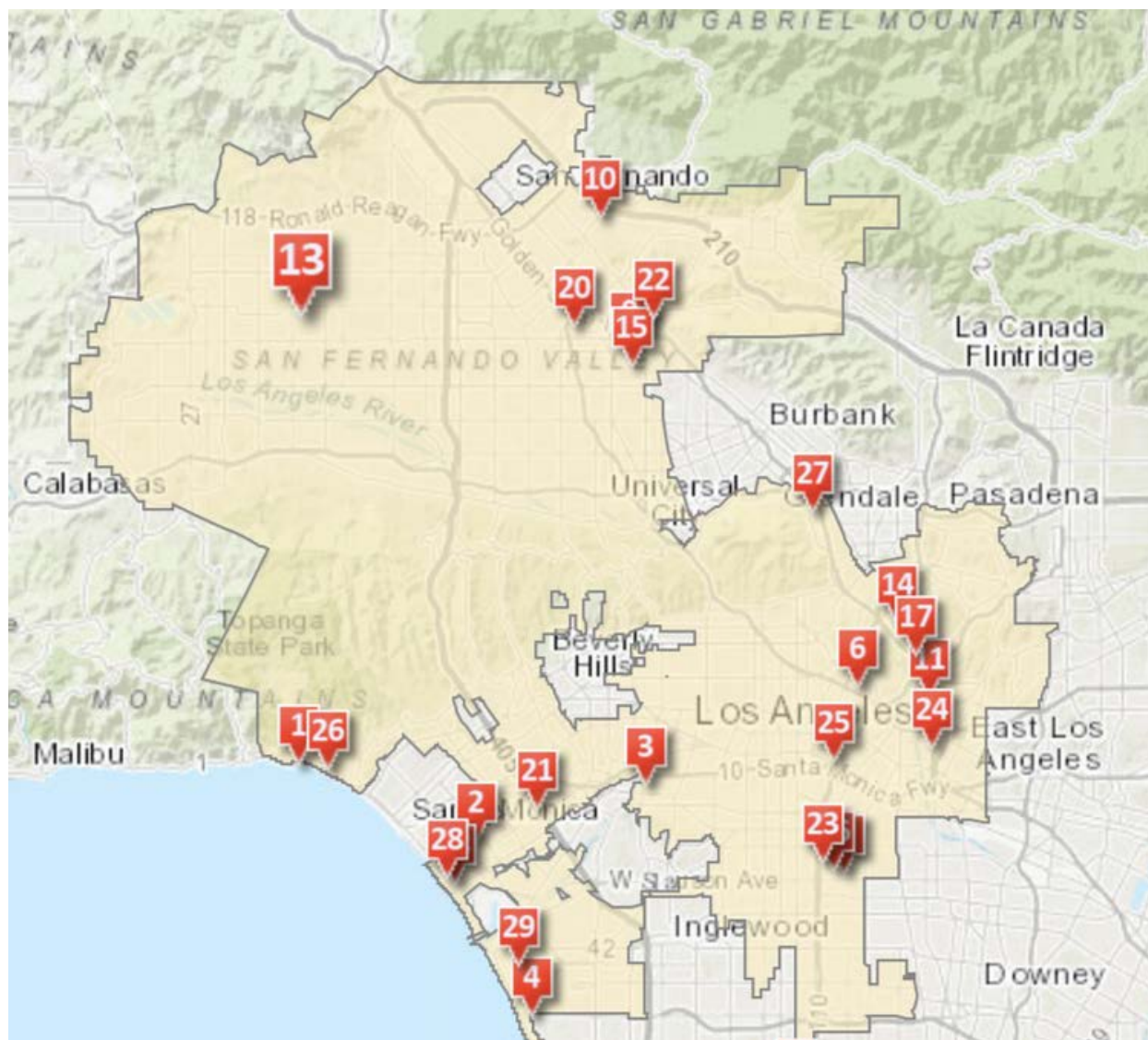


### Low-Impact Development

Distributed structural practices that capture, infiltrate, and/or treat runoff at the parcel (normally less than 10 tributary acres). Common LID practices include bioretention, permeable pavement, and other infiltration BMPs that prevent runoff from leaving a parcel.



## Appendix VIII.



Location of projects funded through Proposition O. Map source: City of LA Prop O Locations Map