COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

GAIL FARBER, Director

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
http://dpw.lacounty.gov

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

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: WM-2

March 7, 2013

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Gail Farber
Director of Public Works

REPORT ON JANUARY 15, 2013, JANUARY 29, 2013, AND FEBRUARY 5, 2013, MOTIONS ON PROPOSED CLEAN WATER, CLEAN BEACHES MEASURE

In response to direction from the Board on January 15, 2013, January 29, 2013, and February 5, 2013 (Attachment A), Public Works conducted additional outreach to various stakeholders including key business groups, municipalities, environmental groups, and schools to address concerns raised during the January 15, 2013, Public Hearing. The information gathered has been evaluated and incorporated into the Draft Ordinance and Draft Implementation Manual (Attachments C and D). Additional research was also conducted in cooperation with the Chief Executive Office (CEO) and County Counsel in order to provide a comprehensive response to the Board. Below are details of our findings and actions since January 15, 2013.

Protest Period Extended, E-mail Option Implemented

Public Works continued to receive protests from parcel owners and has maintained a multilingual call center to answer questions about the Measure and Proposition 218 process. In addition, Public Works began accepting scanned copies of protests via e-mail, as directed by the Board. Information about the time extension and the e-mail option for submitting protests was disseminated to the general public through a press release, updates on the Measure's website, through e-mail updates to stakeholders, and through social media. As of the close of business on March 6, 2013, the total protests received were 112,134, which is equivalent to 5.09 percent of the parcels subject to this fee.

Feasibility of Developing an Online Protest System

As instructed by the Board, Public Works, CEO, County Counsel, and the Treasurer and Tax Collector explored the feasibility of implementing an online protest system and concluded that implementing such a system will cost approximately $1.5 million and require 90 days to implement. The majority of this cost is associated with renoticing the more than 2.2 million affected parcels. A full report is included in Attachment B.

Updates to the Draft Ordinance and Draft Implementation Manual

As instructed by the Board, Public Works revised the draft program documents including a Draft Ordinance and Draft Implementation Manual in order to address concerns expressed by stakeholders and the general public (Attachments C and D). Key revisions under consideration are as follows:

1. Revisions to the process for Claims for Reimbursements and Appeals to include fee reduction for parcels that have onsite water-quality control measures, allowances for contiguous parcels under the same ownership and with land use to be treated as a single parcel, and fee reductions where there is a discrepancy of more than 10 percent between the percentage of impervious cover assigned to the parcel's land use code according to the fee calculation formula and the parcel's actual impervious cover.

2. Revisions to the Incentive Program to allow municipalities, Watershed Authority Groups, and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) to incentivize parcel owners to implement water-quality control measures on their parcels and to accept runoff from offsite.

3. Reduction in the maximum administration cost allowed to municipalities and Watershed Authority Groups.

4. Revision to the membership of the Oversight Board to include an at-large member from the business community.

5. Refinements to the definitions of Regional Projects and Small Projects to allow flexibility in implementation and to provide communities and small groups a greater ability to pursue local multibenefit projects.

6. Development of project selection criteria that incorporate a quantitative scoring and ranking system to ensure projects selected address the intent of the program online at lacounty.cleanwater.org.

The Draft Ordinance and Draft Implementation Manual were made available to the public for review and comment.

Alternative Funding Options

The LACFCD receives Property Tax and benefit assessment revenue totaling approximately $223 million annually. Seventy percent of this revenue is used to finance the operation, maintenance, and repair of the flood control system, respond to storm threats and flooding emergencies, remediate seismic deficiencies, and rehabilitate LACFCD dams. Significant future expenditures are projected for sediment removal from debris basins and reservoirs. The LACFCD also uses this revenue to finance limited activities to meet requirements placed upon the LACFCD under the Federal Clean Water Act and State Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Any additional expenditures for stormwater and urban runoff cleanup efforts using these sources will have significant adverse impacts to current services.

In 2005, the Board directed the CEO (formerly Chief Administrative Office), with assistance from Public Works and County Counsel, to report on how to best identify and implement a stable and long-term regional funding mechanism that would finance the construction, operation, and maintenance of local and regional projects that address water quality and provide other multiple benefits. The report examined a number of potential new funding sources including a sales tax, surcharge on vehicle license and registration fees, gasoline tax surcharge, runoff discharge permit fees, grants, benefit assessment, parcel tax, service fee, and others (Attachment E).

Most municipalities use their General Fund revenues to fund stormwater and urban runoff cleanup efforts, although a few municipalities have implemented their own parcel fee. In the past four years, the Board allocated an average of $10 million annually to fund the Stormwater Program for the Unincorporated Areas. Based on the requirements in the new MS4 Permit, we project the compliance cost for the unincorporated areas to average $45 million per year for the next five years.

The Board requested the CEO to consider the funds that the County has received as a result of the dissolution of Redevelopment Agencies (RDAs) to be used for stormwater pollution. Currently, the County General Fund has received both potentially ongoing

and identifiable one-time funds from the dissolution of the RDAs. It is not known how much of the potentially ongoing funds are sustainable, since large amounts were generated from reserves maintained by RDAs and, therefore, difficult to accurately project with any reasonable certainty at this time. In Fiscal Year 2012-13, the County received approximately $75 million in unencumbered Low and Moderate Income Housing Funding (LMIHF) monies from various redevelopment agencies throughout the County. Cities and other taxing entities have also received their proportional share of the unencumbered LMIHF monies. LMIHF monies are one-time in nature and, in keeping with County Budget Policy, should only be used for one-time expenditures.

The County's compliance with the Clean Water Permit is an ongoing requirement, subject to fines, penalties, and litigation for noncompliance that could far exceed an annual allocation. The funds returning to the County from the RDAs dissolution are General Fund or Net County Cost (NCC). Because the County has traditionally utilized NCC to fund the Stormwater Program for unincorporated areas, the CEO will continue to analyze the appropriate annual allocation based on Public Works' expenditure projections over the next five years for unincorporated areas needs to address permit requirements. The $75 million in one-time funding is not adequate to fund this long-term regulatory requirement. If the initiative is not voted upon or does not pass, the NCC will have to be used for a sustainable Stormwater Program.

Projects to be Funded Under this Program

State law establishes that 90 percent of the funds collected through the Measure be returned locally to municipalities and Watershed Authority Groups for their use in planning and implementing local and regional water-quality projects. Additionally, the Board must approve regional projects before funds can be allocated. Although the LACFCD, County Unincorporated, and City of Los Angeles are more advanced in identifying potential projects, most local agencies have not invested in comprehensive stormwater quality project planning due to lack of funds. Additionally, all significant regional stormwater quality control projects will be implemented by the Watershed Authority Groups, which will not be formed unless the Measure passes.

Although a specific list of projects cannot be developed before the Measure is approved, extensive research and planning has been done in response to the region's water-quality challenges, including development of applications that model types and sizes of Best Management Practices to most optimally achieve desired reductions in pollutant loading. Agencies in the County of Los Angeles have already constructed several water-quality projects, including the Tujunga Wash Greenway, Dominguez Gap

Wetlands, Sun Valley Park, Strathern Pit Wetlands, numerous low-flow diversions, thousands of catch basin screens, and others. In addition, several municipalities have provided the attached list of initial projects, which they would expect to construct should the Measure pass (Attachment F).

Election Options

The California Constitution requires a vote to approve establishing the property-related Clean Water Fee. There are two methods of voting: (1) a mail ballot, Property Owner Election; and (2) a Registered Voter Election. According to Article XIIID of the Constitution:

Voter Approval for New or Increased Fees and Charges. *Except for fees or charges for sewer, water, and refuse collection services, no property-related fee or charge shall be imposed or increased unless and until that fee or charge is submitted and approved by a majority vote of the property owners of the property subject to the fee or charge or, at the option of the agency, by a two-thirds vote of the electorate residing in the affected area.*

Vote of Property Owners (Mail Ballot)

A vote of property owners allows those who would pay the fee the opportunity to vote on whether to impose it on themselves. This approach will also allow parcel owners that do not vote in a traditional election, like school districts and commercial parcels, the opportunity to vote. In addition, parcel owners that are not registered to vote or do not live in the LACFCD would be allowed to vote in a Property Owner Election. To reach these property owners, a mail ballot would be required as there is no mechanism in place to identify property owners to receive a special ballot at polling booths.

A Mail Ballot Election can be held at any time other than an established election date. The cost to conduct such a Mail Ballot Election is $2.5 million, which includes a stamped return envelope for voters to return their ballot. The passage requirement for a property owner vote is a simple majority of ballots returned.

Vote of the Electorate (General Election)

A vote of the electorate to establish a fee is an option allowed by Article XIIID of the Constitution. The vote would be conducted as a Registered Voter Election (in person at polls and absentee ballots). Only registered voters, including renters and other

nonproperty owners with residences within the LACFCD, can vote on whether to impose the fee. Owners of property within the LACFCD, but registered to vote outside of the LACFCD, would not be eligible to vote.

The passage requirement for a vote of the electorate is two-thirds of the votes received. The election would have to take place on an established election date such as November 5, 2013, June 3, 2014, or November 4, 2014. A November 5, 2013, election, which is an off-year Uniform District Election (UDEL) in which there may not be many other measures that would share significantly in the cost of conducting the election, would be approximately $30 million. The cost of an election in June 2014 or November 2014, which are Statewide elections, would be approximately $10 million.

Inclusion of a Sunset Clause

A sunset clause would provide that the Clean Water Fee will expire on a specific date, unless it is reauthorized by the voters. There are three options to consider:

No Sunset Clause

The Clean Water Fee would remain in perpetuity.

Traditional Sunset Clause

The fee would expire after a set time. A period of 25 or 30 years would be long enough to allow municipalities to sell bonds that are financed by the fee (shorter sunset clauses may not allow sufficient time for bonding). At sunset, municipalities, Watershed Authority Groups, and the County will face a budgetary challenge to secure a sustained funding stream to provide for the ongoing maintenance of the water-quality infrastructure that was built and financed by the fee, unless the fee is reauthorized by the voters.

"Dusk" Clause

This option will provide for building infrastructure projects using the Clean Water Fee for an initial period of time, such as 30 years, after which the fee could be reduced to provide for the needed operation and maintenance and any debt service. For example, commencing in Fiscal Year 2043-44, the Clean Water Fee could be reduced by 60 percent, unless an increase is approved by a vote.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (626) 458-4002 or your staff may contact Mark Pestrella, Assistant Director, at (626) 458-4001 or at mpestrella@dpw.lacounty.gov.

RB:sw
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Attach.

cc: Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)
County Counsel
Executive Office

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Attachment A – Direction from the Board (1/15/13, 1/29/13, and 2/5/13)
Attachment B – Report on Feasibility of Online Protest System
Attachment C – Draft Ordinance
Attachment D – Draft Implementation Manual
Attachment E – Report on Stable and Long-Term Surface Water Quality Funding
Attachment F – Potential Projects as Provided by Municipalities

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES HELD IN ROOM 381B

OF THE KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

9:30 AM

40. Hearing on the proposed Clean Water, Clean Beaches Fee; acting as the Governing Body of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, consider all protests against the proposed Clean Water, Clean Beaches Fee made by owners of parcels upon which the fee is proposed for imposition; instruct the Director of Public Works, in her capacity as the Chief Engineer, of the County Flood Control District to return to the Board with a final tabulation of written protests; if there is no majority protest, instruct the Chief Engineer to return to the Board at a future date with a recommendation as to the type of election to conduct on the Clean Water Clean Beaches Fee; if there is a majority protest, refer the matter back to the Department of Public Works. **(Department of Public Works)**

All persons wishing to testify were sworn in by the Executive Officer of the Board. Angela George, Principal Engineer, Department of Public Works, testified and responded to questions posed by the Board.

Thomas J. Faughnan, County Counsel, and Judith Fries, Principal County Counsel, also responded to questions posed by the Board.

Opportunity was given for interested persons to address the Board. Robert Kellar, Mayor, City of Santa Clarita, Emily Gabel-Luddy, Vice Mayor, City of Burbank, Margaret Clark, Council Member, City of Rosemead, Jess Talamantes, Council Member, City of Burbank, TimBen Boydston, Council Member, City of Santa Clarita, Lou La Monte, Mayor, City of Malibu, Dr. Suja Lowenthal, Council Member, City of Long Beach, Dr. Shelley Luce, James Kirsten, Lisa Fimiani, Andy Lipkis, Craig Sap, Karen J. Feinberg, Luis R. Cabrales, Roger Chang and other interested persons addressed the Board. Correspondence was presented.

After discussion, Supervisor Knabe made a motion to continue the Protest Process and Public Hearing for the Clean Water, Clean Beaches

Initiative for an additional 90 days; and instruct the Director of Public Works to address and report back on the following issues:

1. Immediately provide an online/e-mail protest option to the public;

2. Provide a process for placing this initiative on a General Election Ballot, if there is no majority protest;

3. Determine a possible sunset date for this initiative;

4. Define a specific list of projects that this initiative would fund;

5. Address the concern of double taxation for those that are already capturing and treating stormwater; and

6. Develop potential alternative mechanisms to fund stormwater quality projects.

Supervisor Antonovich made a motion to oppose the Clean Water, Clean Beaches tax proposed by the Flood Control District.

Further, Supervisor Antonovich made a motion to instruct the Chief Executive Officer and the Flood Control District to report back on:

1. The feasibility of using a portion of the approximately $162,000,000 redevelopment revenue collected by the County and the Flood Control District on stormwater projects instead of increasing property taxes;

2. Other sources of revenue that can be used for stormwater projects that do not involve raising property taxes, including fund balances in flood control designations, one-time and ongoing revenues from former redevelopment agencies.

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas made a motion to close the Public Hearing and instruct the Director of Public Works to tabulate the protest ballots and report back to the Board with the final tabulation; also instruct the Director of Public Works to bring a revised draft ordinance before the Board and for public input, and recommendations on whether or not to set a date for an election.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a friendly amendment to Supervisor Knabe's motion to include in the report ways to credit not just schools,

but property owners that may already have invested money to clean up their water runoff so they would not have to pay twice and to communicate that there is an appeals process for the fee, under certain provisions, available to property owners.

Gail Farber, Director, and Mark Pestrella, Assistant Deputy Director, Department of Public Works, responded to questions posed by the Board.

After further discussion, Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a suggestion to amend Supervisor Knabe's motion to reduce the date of continuation and report back from 90 to 60 days; and set the item for hearing on March 12, 2013.

Supervisor Knabe accepted Supervisor Yaroslavsky amendments. Supervisor Knabe accepted a portion of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' amendment to instruct the Director of Public Works to bring a revised draft ordinance before the Board and for public input, and recommendations on whether or not to set a date for an election.

Supervisor Knabe further amended his motion for the Director of Public Works and County Counsel to report back on the legal and practical feasibility of immediately providing for an online/e-mail protest option to the public;

Supervisor Knabe's motion, as amended, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, was duly carried by the following vote to:

1. Continue the Protest Process and Public Hearing for the Clean Water, Clean Beaches Initiative for an additional 60 days to March 12, 2013;

2. Instruct the Director of Public Works a to bring a revised draft ordinance before the Board and for public input, and recommendations on whether or not to set a date for an election; and

3. Instruct the Director of Public Works and County Counsel to address and report back on the following issues:

   - The legal and practical feasibility of immediately providing an online/e-mail protest option to the public;

   - Provide a process for placing this initiative on a General Election Ballot, if there is no majority protest;

- **Determine a possible sunset date for this initiative;**

- **Define a specific list of projects that this initiative would fund;**

- **Address the concern of double taxation for those that are already capturing and treating stormwater, including property owners who may already have invested money to clean up their water runoff so they would not have to pay twice; and**

- **Develop potential alternative mechanisms to fund stormwater quality projects.** (12-5638)

Ayes: 3 - Supervisor Yaroslavsky, Supervisor Knabe and Supervisor Ridley-Thomas

Noes: 2 - Supervisor Molina and Supervisor Antonovich

Supervisor Antonovich's motion to oppose the Clean Water, Clean Beaches tax proposed by the Flood Control District failed to carry by the following vote:

Ayes: 2 - Supervisor Knabe and Supervisor Antonovich

Noes: 3 - Supervisor Molina, Supervisor Yaroslavsky and Supervisor Ridley-Thomas

Supervisor Antonovich's motion to instruct the Chief Executive Officer and the Flood Control District to report back on the following failed to carry by the following vote:

1. **The feasibility of using a portion of the approximately $162,000,000 in redevelopment revenue collected by the County and the Flood Control District on stormwater projects instead of increasing property taxes; and**

2. **Other sources of revenue that can be used for stormwater projects that do not involve raising property taxes, including fund balances in flood control designations, one-time and ongoing revenues from former redevelopment agencies.**

Ayes: 1 - Supervisor Antonovich

Noes: 3 - Supervisor Molina, Supervisor Yaroslavsky and Supervisor Knabe

Abstentions: 1 - Supervisor Ridley-Thomas

The foregoing is a fair statement of the proceedings of the meeting held January 15, 2013, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer
Executive Officer-Clerk
of the Board of Supervisors

By Sachi A. Hamai

Sachi A. Hamai
Executive Officer

AGN. NO._____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR KNABE January 29, 2013

After hearing testimony and receiving protests at the January 15, 2013 protest hearing on the Clean Water, Clean Beaches Measure, this Board continued the hearing to March 12, 2013 and directed Public Works and County Counsel to report back on the legality and feasibility of online/email protest options for the public during the continued protest period.

On January 25, 2013 County Counsel reported back to this Board on a feasible email protest option developed by Public Works and County Counsel as an alternative method of submitting protests for the Clean Water, Clean Beaches Measure.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Public Works to establish an official email address for the acceptance of emailed written protests, and to accept as valid protests, the following documents transmitted to the official email address: a scanned copy of the protest form provided by the Department of Public Works, completed and signed by the property owner or authorized representative, or a scanned protest letter identifying the parcel address and assessor's parcel number and signed by the property owner or an authorized representative.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board direct the Department of Public Works to provide instructions and public outreach on the email protest option through its website, the multi-lingual call center for the Clean Water, Clean Beaches Measure, social media and the press, as outlined in the Board memo.

###

	MOTION
MOLINA	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
RIDLEY-THOMAS	_____

AGN. NO._____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH FEBRUARY 5, 2013

On January 29th, the Board approved a motion to allow electronic protests to the Clean Water Clean Beaches Measure if the protest letters are scanned and emailed to the Flood Control District. Unfortunately, this process can be cumbersome for those who do not own or are unfamiliar with scanners. An online protest system that permits property owners to enter their property tax pin, Assessor Parcel Number (APN) and upload an electronic signature is more efficient and equitable.

The Pew Research Center estimates that 81% of Americans use the internet. It's important that government services shift to online tools as their dominant form of public communication and interaction. This saves time and money, and provides more responsive public services.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Chief Executive Officer, County Counsel and the Flood Control District report back to the board on March 12, 2013 on the feasibility of developing an online protest system that permits property owners to enter their property tax pin, Assessor Parcel Number (APN) and upload an electronic signature.

# # #

MDA:evo
electronicprotestwatertax020513

MOTION

MOLINA _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS_____

Attachment B

REPORT ON FEASIBILITY OF ON-LINE PROTEST SYSTEM

On February 5, 2013, on a Motion by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in collaboration with County Counsel, and the Department of Public Works, on behalf of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, were directed to report back on the feasibility of developing an on-line protest system for the Clean Water, Clean Beaches Measure (Measure), that permits property owners to enter their Assessor Identification No. (AIN), also known as Assessor Parcel No. (APN), and the property tax Personal Identification No. (PIN), and upload an electronic signature to allow electronic protests to the Measure.

In response to the Board's February 5, 2013, Motion, the CEO convened a meeting with the Departments of Public Works (DPW), Treasurer and Tax Collector (TTC), and County Counsel to assess the feasibility of implementing an on-line protest system that would establish a platform for property owners to make an on-line protest using the property owner's AIN and property tax PIN. Staff from the foregoing departments discussed the various types of on-line protests systems that would be feasible to implement, as well as any potential legal, technical, and security issues related to the use of an on-line protest system for the Measure.

Potential On-line Protest System

An on-line protest system could be developed and implemented by K&H Printing, the election vendor responsible for collecting and tallying protests. K&H could develop a website that would prompt users to enter an AIN and PIN, the combination of which forms a unique relationship and serves to verify that the protest is attributable to the property owner or authorized representative. Upon successful entry of the required information, the user would be prompted to enter their name and check a box certifying they are the property owner or that they are authorized to submit a protest on behalf of the property owner and that they protest the proposed Clean Water Fee. The user would then submit the protest by clicking a "submit button."

Protests submitted electronically on this website would be considered "written protests" pursuant to Proposition 218, (California Constitution, Article XIIID, Section 6). If a majority of property owners submit written protests against the Measure, the Fee cannot be imposed.

Property Owner Personal Identification Number (PIN)

As part of our discussions on this matter, the CEO's office and staff from the respective County departments conferred with the TTC about their current processes for the issuance of the property tax PIN, and any security requirements pertaining to the release of the PIN or the algorithm, which calculates the PIN. It should be noted that the TTC requires the PIN to comply with the rules that govern Automated Clearing House (ACH) Debits for on-line payments and the County's requirement of duel authentication for processing of on-line payments. As such, each property owner is

Attachment B

REPORT ON FEASIBILITY OF ON-LINE PROTEST SYSTEM

provided a PIN that is printed on their original tax bill. The PIN is used to verify that the taxpayer making an on-line payment is the assessee of record, or an authorized representative. This is accomplished by the use of an algorithm, which validates that the PIN entered is associated with the AIN, per the TTC's records.

Due to security concerns, TTC cannot release the PIN algorithm to K&H Printing, the third-party election vendor for DPW. Therefore, a PIN algorithm that is used exclusively for the on-line protest system would need to be developed by DPW.

Implementation of this process would take approximately 90 days.

Funding Requirements

With regard to funding requirements for the implementation of an on-line protest system for the Measure, it is estimated that approximately $1,500,000 in supplemental funding would be required in order to provide by mail to the owners of the approximately 2.2 million properties potentially subject to the fee a unique PIN associated with their parcel. This amount reflects costs to develop a revised notice, printing, and postage, as well as the cost to develop and implement the on-line protest system. Additional cost would also be incurred to keep the protest open and maintain the multilingual call center. Furthermore, the existing contract with K&H Printing does not provide for these tasks. Therefore, Board authorization to amend that contract to include these tasks would be required.

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ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance adding Chapter 18 to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code to impose, subject to voter approval, a fee upon parcels located within the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to pay for projects relating to improving surface water quality within the district.

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles ordains as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 18 is hereby added to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Code to read as follows:

Chapter 18

18.01 Short Title.

18.02 Definitions.

18.03 Purpose and Intent.

18.04 Water Quality Fee Imposed.

18.05 Allocation of Revenues from Imposition of the Water Quality Fee.

18.06 Agreements for Transfer of Proceeds of the Water Quality Fee.

18.07 Required Water Quality Project Criteria.

18.08 Implementation of this Chapter.

18.09 Formation and Composition of Watershed Authority Groups.

18.10 Water Quality Projects Oversight Board.

18.11 Revenue Bonds.

18.12 District Held Harmless.

18.13 Sunset of Fee [Under consideration]

DRAFT

18.01 Short Title.

This chapter shall be known as the "Los Angeles County Flood Control District Clean Water Clean Beaches Program Ordinance."

18.02 Definitions.

The following definitions apply to this Chapter 18:

"Auditor" means the Auditor-Controller of the County of Los Angeles.

"Board of Supervisors" means the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors acting as the governing body of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District.

"Chief Engineer" means the Chief Engineer of the District or his/her authorized deputy, agent, or representative.

"County" means the County of Los Angeles.

"District" means the Los Angeles County Flood Control District.

"Impervious area" means impermeable surfaces, such as pavement or rooftops, which prevent the infiltration of stormwater and urban runoff into the ground.

"Implementation Manual" means goals, policies, guidelines, procedures, standards, and requirements approved by the Board of Supervisors to implement this chapter, as described in Section 18.08.

"Municipal projects" means water quality projects carried out by Municipalities and financed in whole or in part with Water Quality Fee revenues allocated to the Municipalities.

"Municipality" means a city or the collective unincorporated areas within the boundaries of the District.

"Parcel" means a parcel of real property situated within the established boundaries of the District, as shown on the latest equalized assessment roll of the County and identified by its Assessor's Parcel Number ("APN").

DRAFT

"Regional projects" means water quality projects of regional significance and financed in whole or in part with Water Quality Fee revenues, that address pollutant loads from more than one Municipality, or are part of a plan that treats an entire reach of a river or subwatershed. Regional projects may be individual projects or a network of small projects.

"Small projects" means water quality projects that are financed in whole or in part with Water Quality Fee revenues that are from ¼-acre to 10 acres in size and individually address, or are part of a network of linked projects that address pollutant loads from more than one Municipality, or are part of a plan that treats an entire reach of a river or subwatershed.

"Stakeholder" means a person, citizens group, homeowner or other property-owner group, business group, nongovernmental organization, environmental group, academic institution, neighborhood council, town council or other similar community group, water resources agency such as groundwater pumper or manager, private or public water agency, other government agency, or other interested party that has a direct or indirect stake in the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Clean Water Clean Beaches Program because the party can affect or be affected by the actions, objectives, and policies of one or more water quality projects funded or potentially funded with proceeds from the Water Quality Fee.

"Stormwater" means water that originates from atmospheric moisture (rainfall or snowmelt) and falls onto land, water, and/or other surfaces within the District.

"Surface water" means water that flows or collects on the surface of the ground.

"Treasurer" means the Treasurer and Tax Collector of the County of Los Angeles.

"Urban runoff" means surface water flow that may contain, but is not composed entirely of stormwater, such as flow from residential, commercial, or industrial activities.

"Water quality benefit" means any activity that contributes to the improvement of surface water quality.

"Water Quality Fee" means the fee imposed pursuant to this chapter to provide funding for water quality projects.

"Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP)" means a plan prepared by a Watershed Authority Group for the watershed area it represents and approved by the Board of Supervisors, which identifies pollutants, establishes targets for improvement, and identifies and prioritizes regional projects for planning, design and implementation within the ensuing five (5) years, in accordance with procedures and requirements set forth in the Implementation Manual.

"Water quality project" means any project, program, study, maintenance or operations activity, or other action that includes a water quality benefit.

"Watershed Area" means one of the nine (9) geographic areas identified in Section 18.09 of this chapter and in Section 2 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control Act, subsection 8b(C), as described on maps prepared and maintained by the Chief Engineer based upon the Chief Engineer's determination of the hydrologic topographies of the watersheds.

"Watershed Authority Group" or "WAG" means a group formed in accordance with the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code, consisting of Municipalities and other public agencies within each of nine watershed areas identified in Section 18.09.

18.03 Purpose and Intent.

This chapter is enacted pursuant to Section 2, subsection 8c, of the Los Angeles County Flood Control Act (Chapter 755 of the Statutes of 1915 and subsequent amendments). The purpose of this chapter is to implement the authority provided by Assembly Bill 2554 (2010) to provide funding for Municipalities, Watershed Authority Groups, and the District to initiate, plan, design, construct, implement, operate, maintain, and sustain projects and services to improve surface water quality and reduce stormwater and urban runoff pollution in the District. It is also

the intent of this chapter to encourage the design of such projects to achieve multiple benefits and incorporate sustainable solutions, as provided in the Implementation Manual.

18.04 Water Quality Fee Imposed.

A. A Water Quality Fee will be imposed upon certain parcels within the District in the manner set forth in this chapter. The Water Quality Fee will be levied and collected by the Treasurer and apportioned by the Auditor. The Board of Supervisors will make appropriations from the District's funds in a manner that authorizes the disbursement of Water Quality Fee revenues in accordance with Section 18.05.

B. The Water Quality Fee will be calculated for each parcel subject to the fee based upon the parcel's impervious area, which will be determined based upon the lot size and other specified characteristics of the parcel, to reflect the parcel's proportional allocation of the cost of the projects and services that are funded by revenues from the Water Quality Fee. The boundaries of the area, and identification of the parcels, subject to the fee and the method for calculating the Water Quality Fee for each parcel are supported by, and set forth in, an engineer's report prepared at the direction of the Chief Engineer and filed with the clerk of the Board of Supervisors. The Chief Engineer will make the engineer's report available to any person upon request at no charge. The maximum rate used for calculating the Water Quality Fee, as set forth in the engineer's report, will remain the same from year to year, unless an increase is approved in accordance with Article XIII D of the California Constitution. The Chief Engineer may periodically re-evaluate the characteristics of parcels to determine whether improvements or other changes to the parcel's characteristics have taken place that would affect the amount of the Water Quality Fee imposed on such parcel, and to re-calculate the Fee as appropriate.

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C. The Water Quality Fee will be collected for each fiscal year on the property tax roll in the same manner and at the same time as the general taxes of the County are collected, or through direct invoicing to parcel owners that do not receive a consolidated property tax bill. The Auditor will provide each Watershed Authority Group with an annual accounting of the total revenues collected from the Water Quality Fee in its respective watershed area, including the revenues collected in each Municipality. The Auditor will also provide an annual statement of the revenues collected from the Water Quality Fee to each Municipality.

D. Insofar as feasible and not inconsistent with this chapter, the times and procedures regarding exemptions, due dates, installment payments, corrections, cancellations, refunds, late payments, penalties, liens, and collections for secured roll ad valorem property taxes will be applicable to the collection of the Water Quality Fee.

18.05 Allocation of Revenues from Imposition of the Water Quality Fee.

The revenues from the Water Quality Fee shall be allocated and used, subject to the terms and conditions of this chapter, as follows:

A. Ten percent (10%) shall be allocated to the District to be used for implementation and administration of water quality projects, as determined by the District, including activities such as planning, water quality monitoring, and any other related activities, and for payment of the costs incurred in connection with the levy and collection of the Water Quality Fee and distribution of the funds generated by imposition of the Water Quality Fee, and any other related activities associated with administering this chapter.

B. Forty percent (40%) shall be allocated to the Municipalities, in the same proportion as the amount of the Water Quality Fee collected within each Municipality, to be expended by the Municipalities within the Municipalities' respective jurisdictions for eligible municipal projects. Any Municipality may assign some or all of its allocation of the Water

Quality Fee to the Watershed Authority Group for any watershed area(s) in which the Municipality is located for funding regional projects located in whole or in part within the jurisdiction of the Municipality.

C. Fifty percent (50%) shall be allocated to the nine (9) Watershed Authority Groups established in accordance with Section 18.09, in the same proportion as the amount of the Water Quality Fee collected within the watershed area of each Watershed Authority Group, to be expended by the Watershed Authority Groups to prepare WQIPs and carry out regional projects within that watershed area through a collaborative process as provided in the Implementation Manual. The implementation of a WQIP by a Watershed Authority Group requires the consent of any Municipality member of the Watershed Authority Group whose jurisdiction comprises more than forty percent (40%) of the total land area in the applicable watershed area.

18.06 Agreements for Transfer of Proceeds of the Water Quality Fee.

Prior to its receipt of any Water Quality Fee revenues, a Municipality or Watershed Authority Group must enter into an agreement with the District to provide for the transfer and use of the revenues as provided in this chapter. The transfer of proceeds agreement is designed to carry out the requirements of this chapter, the Implementation Manual and other laws governing the Water Quality Fee. A form agreement will be prepared by the District in collaboration with Municipalities and Watershed Authority Groups and approved by the Board of Supervisors and will include:

A. Requirement for compliance with the terms of this chapter and the Implementation Manual.

B. Provisions as necessary to provide clarity and accountability in the use of Water Quality Fee revenues.

C. Provision for indemnification of the District.

18.07 Required Water Quality Project Criteria.

A. All water quality projects funded under this chapter are required to comply with the following criteria:

1. That the water quality project demonstrates the ability to provide and sustain long-term water quality benefits.

2. That the water quality project is based on generally accepted scientific and engineering principles and the best available information.

3. Pursuant to the Los Angeles County Flood Control Act, that only the costs of the water quality benefit(s) provided by a water quality project are funded with revenues from the Water Quality Fee. Other costs of water quality projects are not eligible to be funded with revenues from the Water Quality Fee except insofar as these costs are incidental to a water quality benefit provided by the project.

B. All regional projects funded under this chapter are required to be included in an approved WQIP that is prepared in accordance with the Implementation Manual.

18.08 Implementation of this Chapter.

The Chief Engineer will prepare an Implementation Manual setting forth goals, policies, guidelines, procedures, standards, and requirements to implement this chapter, subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors.

The Implementation Manual will include standards for determining eligibility of water quality projects to be funded with Water Quality Fee revenues, as well as requirements and procedures for preparation of WQIPs by Watershed Authority Groups and evaluation procedures for selection of water quality projects by Watershed Authority Groups, the evaluation procedures to be developed in collaboration with Watershed Authority Groups, Municipalities,

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and stakeholders, consistent with the provisions of this chapter. The Implementation Manual will include goals and policies for the planning and selection of water quality projects by Municipalities, Watershed Authority Groups, and the District, including policies and guidance to encourage and facilitate the design of water quality projects to achieve multiple benefits and incorporate sustainable solutions where feasible and appropriate.

The Implementation Manual will also set forth procedures and requirements for the following:

A. Audits, reporting and recordkeeping relating to expenditures of Water Quality Fee revenues by Municipalities, Watershed Authority Groups, and the District.

B. Addressing misuse of Water Quality Fee revenues and other failures to comply with the terms of this chapter or the Implementation Manual.

C. Executing transfer agreements pursuant to Section 18.06 and addressing the failure of any Municipality or Watershed Authority Group to sign a transfer agreement.

D. Formation and governance of Watershed Authority Groups, including requirements and procedures for an existing joint powers authority to serve as a Watershed Authority Group(s).

E. Provisions for stakeholder involvement.

F. Matters relating to the Water Quality Projects Oversight Board described in Section 18.10.

G. Request by a property owner for correction or adjustment of the fee that has been imposed on his or her property.

H. The development by Watershed Authority Groups of projects in collaboration with Municipalities and stakeholders, taking into account factors such as the collective

impact of a variety of pollutant sources and planning for the entire watershed area rather than individual local areas.

I. Formation and administration of a fee reduction program to provide rebates of the Water Quality Fee to parcel owners for implementing on-site stormwater management measures.

18.09 Formation of Watershed Authority Groups.

A Watershed Authority Group will be established for each of the following nine (9) watershed areas within the boundaries of the District: Ballona Creek, Dominguez Channel, Upper Los Angeles River, Lower Los Angeles River, Rio Hondo River, Upper San Gabriel River, Lower San Gabriel River, Santa Clara River, and Santa Monica Bay. Each Watershed Authority Group must be formed in accordance with the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code. The Chief Engineer will prepare and maintain on file maps setting forth the precise boundaries of the watershed areas based upon the Chief Engineer's determination of the hydrologic topographies of the watersheds.

All Municipalities that are located within the boundaries of a watershed area and contain parcels that are subject to the Water Quality Fee, as established by Section 18.10, are eligible to become members of the Watershed Authority Group for that watershed area. A Municipality that is located in more than one watershed area is eligible for membership in the Watershed Authority Groups for all watershed areas in which it is located. A Municipality may join a Watershed Authority Group at any time.

For each Watershed Authority Group except the Santa Clara River Watershed Authority Group, the Board of Supervisors will select two (2) public agencies to serve as non-Municipality members. One public agency will be a public water supply, wastewater, or replenishment

agency with experience in stormwater capture and/or water reuse for water supply augmentation, and the other public agency will be a state conservancy or other public agency with experience identifying and bringing together funding from multiple sources and implementing projects with multiple benefits in the watershed area for the Watershed Authority Group for which the agency is selected. For the Santa Clara River Watershed Authority Group, the Board of Supervisors will select only one (1) public agency meeting the requirements of one (1) of the types of public agencies described above, and this agency will be eligible to serve as a non-Municipality member of the Santa Clara River Watershed Authority Group.

Each Watershed Authority Group is strictly accountable for all funds, receipts, and disbursements of the Watershed Authority Group. The Treasurer will act as the treasurer of each Watershed Authority Group and will be the depository and have custody of all funds of each Watershed Authority Group. The Auditor will perform the functions of the controller of each Watershed Authority Group. The Treasurer and Auditor, at their discretion, may delegate their functions to a treasurer or controller designated by the Watershed Authority Group. The Watershed Authority Group is required to reimburse the Treasurer and the Auditor for costs incurred in connection with the performance of their duties.

18.10 Oversight Board.

An Oversight Board is established and will be referred to hereinafter in this chapter as the "Oversight Board." The Oversight Board will consist of members with water quality experience drawn from academia, professional societies, nongovernmental organizations, and the private and public sectors, as well as members from the general public who are not necessarily required to have water quality experience. The composition and qualifications of the Oversight Board, the method of appointing members, and procedures governing the Oversight Board and its duties will be set forth in the Implementation Manual.

The purpose of the Oversight Board is to conduct public hearings and make findings and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on matters related to the WQIPs prepared by Watershed Authority Groups. In addition, review and approval by the Oversight Board is required for proposed municipal projects for which the total costs of the water quality benefit, excluding operation and maintenance, are expected to exceed two million dollars ($2,000,000), as described in the Implementation Manual.

18.11 Revenue Bonds.

Bonds issued hereunder by the governing body of a Municipality, the District, or a Watershed Authority Group, to the extent such entity is authorized by law to issue and sell revenue bonds, may be secured by Water Quality Fee revenues as set forth in this chapter. Only those amounts specifically allocated to a Municipality, the District, or a Watershed Authority Group may be used as security for its respective bonds.

Revenue bonds issued pursuant to this chapter shall not constitute any indebtedness of the District or the County, but shall be payable, principal and interest, only from revenues received from the Water Quality Fee.

18.12 District Held Harmless.

Nothing in this chapter requires the District to accept ownership or responsibility for any water quality project developed, constructed, or otherwise carried out or implemented by a Municipality or a Watershed Authority Group with the Water Quality Fee revenues. Unless the District enters into an express agreement with a Watershed Authority Group or Municipality to the contrary, neither the District nor the County to the extent that it is acting on behalf of the District, nor their officers, employees, agents or volunteers ("District Indemnitees") will be liable in connection with errors, defects, injuries, or property damage caused by or attributed to any water quality project that is funded in whole or in part with Water Quality Fee revenues, and

each Municipality and Watershed Authority Group is required to indemnify the District Indemnitees and hold them harmless for claims, liability, and expenses, including attorneys fees, incurred by any District Indemnitees as a result of any water quality project developed, constructed, or otherwise carried out or implemented by the Municipality or Watershed Authority Group pursuant to this chapter, except for claims, liability, and expenses, including attorneys fees, resulting from the sole negligence or willful misconduct of District Indemnitees.

18.13 Sunset of Fee.

(UNDER CONSIDERATION)

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IMPLEMENTATION MANUAL FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT CLEAN WATER CLEAN BEACHES PROGRAM

I. Introduction: Purpose and Intent of the Program

If approved in an election held in accordance with Article XIIID of the California Constitution, a fee (hereafter "Water Quality Fee") will be imposed upon parcels within the Los Angeles County Flood Control District ("District").

The Water Quality Fee will provide a portion of the funding for the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Clean Water, Clean Beaches Program, which is authorized pursuant to section 2, subsection 8c, of the Los Angeles County Flood Control Act (Chapter 755 of the Statutes of 1915 and subsequent amendments). The purpose of the Program is to provide funding for Municipalities and Watershed Authority Groups (as defined below), as well as the District to initiate, plan, design, construct, implement, operate, and maintain surface water quality projects and services to improve surface water quality, and reduce stormwater and urban runoff pollution in the District. It is also the intent of the Program to encourage the design of water quality projects to achieve multiple benefits and incorporate sustainable solutions.

Specifically, water quality projects that provide multiple benefits are desirable and to be encouraged, where feasible, such as protecting and enhancing available drinking water supply via water conservation/reuse efforts such as rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge; providing flood protection and control; protecting public health and safety; protecting open space and natural areas; providing places for recreation, such as parks or ball fields; creating, restoring, or improving wetlands, riparian, upland and coastal habitats; and providing other public benefits. While the Program encourages projects that provide multiple benefits, as described above, the Los Angeles County Flood Control Act requires that revenues from the Water Quality Fee only be used for water quality benefits.

This Implementation Manual sets forth the policies, guidelines, procedures, standards, and requirements to implement the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Clean Water, Clean Beaches Program, as required by Chapter 18 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control Code.

II. Definitions

The following definitions apply to this Program:

"Auditor" means the Auditor-Controller of the County of Los Angeles.

"Board of Supervisors" means the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors acting as the governing body of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District.

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"Chief Engineer" means the Chief Engineer of the District or his/her authorized deputy, agent, or representative.

"County" means the County of Los Angeles.

"District" means the Los Angeles County Flood Control District.

"Impervious area" means impermeable surfaces, such as pavement or rooftops, which prevent the infiltration of stormwater and urban runoff into the ground.

"Implementation Manual" means the goals, policies, guidelines, procedures, standards, and requirements contained in this manual as prepared by the Chief Engineer and approved by the Board of Supervisors pursuant to Chapter 19 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control Code, and as may be revised, modified and/or amended by the Board of Supervisors from time to time.

"Municipal projects" means water quality projects carried out by Municipalities and financed in whole or in part with Water Quality Fee revenues allocated to the Municipalities. "Municipal projects" also has the meaning set forth in Section III(D)(1)(i), but only for the purpose of applying the $2 million threshold for municipal projects that is described in that section.

"Municipality" means a city or the collective unincorporated areas within the boundaries of the District.

"Parcel" means a parcel of real property situated within the established boundaries of the District, as shown on the latest equalized assessment roll of the County and identified by its Assessor's Parcel Number ("APN").

"Regional projects" means water quality projects of regional significance and financed in whole or in part with Water Quality Fee revenues, that address pollutant loads from more than one Municipality, or are part of a plan that treats an entire reach of a river or subwatershed. Regional projects may be individual projects or a network of small projects.

"Small projects" means water quality projects that are financed in whole or in part with Water Quality Fee revenues that are from ¼-acre to 10 acres in size and individually address, or are part of a network of linked projects that address pollutant loads from more than one Municipality, or are part of a plan that treats an entire reach of a river or subwatershed.

"Public Schools Clean Water Program" means a program that will be implemented by Watershed Authority Groups in accordance with procedures developed by the District, for using a portion of the revenues from the Water Quality Fee allocated to Watershed Authority Groups to fund water quality

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curriculum and regional capital improvements providing water quality benefits at public schools within each watershed.

"Registrar Recorder" means the Registrar Recorder/County Clerk of the County of Los Angeles.

"Stakeholder" means a person, citizens group, homeowner or other property-owner group, business group, nongovernmental organization, environmental group, academic institution, neighborhood council, town council or other similar community group, water resources agency such as groundwater pumper or manager, private or public water agency, other government agency, or other interested party that has a direct or indirect stake in the Program because the party can affect or be affected by the actions, objectives, and policies of one or more water quality projects funded or potentially funded with proceeds from the Water Quality Fee.

"Stormwater" means water that originates from atmospheric moisture (rainfall or snowmelt) and falls onto land, water, and/or other surfaces within the District.

"Surface water" means water that flows or collects on the surface of the ground.

"Treasurer" means the Treasurer and Tax Collector of the County of Los Angeles.

"Urban runoff" means surface water flow that may contain but is not composed entirely of stormwater, such as flow from residential, commercial, or industrial activities.

"Water quality benefit" means any activity that contributes to the improvement of surface water quality.

"Water Quality Fee" means the fee imposed pursuant to Chapter 18 of the Los Angeles County Flood Control Code to provide funding for water quality projects.

"Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP)" means a plan prepared by a Watershed Authority Group for the watershed area it represents and approved by the Board of Supervisors, which identifies pollutants, establishes targets for improvement, and identifies and prioritizes regional projects for planning, design and implementation within the ensuing five (5) years, in accordance with procedures and requirements set forth in the Implementation Manual.

"Water quality project" means any project, program, study, maintenance or operations activity, or other action that includes a water quality benefit.

"Watershed Area" means one of the nine (9) geographic areas identified in Section 2 of the Los Angeles Flood Control Act, subsection 8b(C), as described

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on maps prepared and maintained by the Chief Engineer based upon the Chief Engineer's determination of the hydrologic topographies of the watersheds.

"Watershed Authority Group" or "WAG" means a group formed in accordance with the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code, consisting of Municipalities and other public agencies within each of nine watershed areas identified in Section III(C)(2).

III. Program Implementation

A. Distribution of the Water Quality Fee Revenues

1. <u>Allocation of Fee Revenues Among the District, Municipalities, and Watershed Authority Groups</u>

The revenues from the Water Quality Fee will be allocated and used, subject to the requirements of the Program, as follows:

a. Ten percent (10%) will be allocated to the District to be used for implementation of water quality projects, as determined by the District, including activities such as planning, water quality monitoring, technical assistance to WAGs and/or municipalities, and any other related activities, and for payment of the costs incurred in connection with the levy and collection of the Water Quality Fee and distribution of the funds generated by imposition of the Water Quality Fee, and any other related activities associated with administering the Program.

b. Forty percent (40%) will be allocated to the Municipalities, in the same proportion as the amount of the Water Quality Fee collected within each Municipality, to be expended by the Municipalities within the Municipalities' respective jurisdictions for eligible municipal projects and other eligible water quality measures as defined in Section III(B)(4). Any Municipality may assign some or all of its allocation of the Water Quality Fee to the Watershed Authority Group for any watershed area(s) in which the Municipality is located for funding regional projects located in whole or in part within the jurisdiction of the Municipality.

c. Fifty percent (50%) will be allocated to the nine (9) Watershed Authority Groups in the same proportion as the amount of the Water Quality Fee collected within the watershed area of each Watershed Authority Group, to be expended by the Watershed Authority Groups to prepare

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Water Quality Improvement Programs ("WQIPs") and carry out regional projects within that watershed area through a collaborative process that includes input from stakeholders within their watershed areas as provided in the Implementation Manual. The implementation of a WQIP by a Watershed Authority Group will be required to have the consent of any Municipality member of a Watershed Authority Group whose jurisdiction comprises more than forty percent (40%) of the total land area in the applicable watershed area.

2. Agreements for Transfer of Proceeds of the Water Quality Fee.

Prior to its receipt of any Water Quality Fee revenues, a Municipality or Watershed Authority Group must enter into an agreement with the District to provide for the transfer and use of Water Quality Fee revenues. The transfer of proceeds agreement is designed to carry out the requirements of the Program and other laws governing the Water Quality Fee. A form agreement will be prepared by the Chief Engineer in collaboration with Municipalities and Watershed Authority Groups and approved by the Board of Supervisors, to include:

a. Requirement for compliance with the terms of the Program.

b. Provisions as necessary to provide clarity and accountability in the use of Water Quality Fee revenues.

c. For agreements with Watershed Authority Groups, provisions for empanelling local and regional Stakeholders ("Stakeholder Advisory Panels") to provide input to Watershed Authority Groups on proposed regional projects funded by the Water Quality Fee.

d. For agreements with Municipalities, provisions to ensure a balanced variety of stakeholder engagement in the project selection process.

e. Guidelines for monitoring, reporting, and auditing water quality projects.

f. Provisions for management of interest funds, debt, liability and obligations.

g. Provisions for indemnification of the District.

If a Municipality has not executed the transfer of proceeds agreement by the end of any fiscal year in which the Water Quality

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Fee revenues are collected, then the Municipality's share of the revenues for that fiscal year would be reallocated to the Watershed Authority Group(s) in which the municipality is located, in proportion to the revenues collected in each Watershed Authority Group's watershed area, for funding regional projects located within the jurisdiction of the municipality.

If a Watershed Authority Group has not executed the transfer of proceeds agreement by the end of any fiscal year in which the Water Quality Fee revenues are collected, then the Watershed Authority Group's share of the revenues for that fiscal year will, at the discretion of the District, either be transferred to the District for its use in implementing water quality projects in the same watershed area from which the revenues were collected or be returned to the parcel owners, except that revenues collected in the first year will not be transferred to the District or returned to the parcel owners until the end of the following fiscal year.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Chief Engineer may extend the time in which a Municipality or a Watershed Authority Group must have executed the transfer of proceeds agreement in order to receive its share of the revenues from the Water Quality Fee.

B. Program Goals and Requirements Regarding Uses of Revenues from the Water Quality Fee

1. Required Water Quality Project Criteria.

a. All water quality projects funded in whole or in part with Water Quality Fee revenues will be required to comply with the following criteria:

(1) That the water quality project demonstrates the ability to provide and sustain long-term water quality benefits.

(2) That the water quality project is based on generally accepted scientific and engineering principles and the best available information.

(3) Pursuant to the Los Angeles County Flood Control Act, only the costs of the water quality benefit(s) provided by a water quality project can be funded with revenues from the Water Quality Fee. Other costs of water quality projects are not eligible to be funded with revenues from the Water Quality Fee except insofar as these costs are incidental to a water quality benefit provided by the project.

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b. All projects funded by a WAG under this chapter are required to be included in an approved WQIP that is prepared in accordance with the Implementation Manual.

2. Water Quality Project Goals.

In determining the water quality projects to be funded with revenues from the Water Quality Fee, Municipalities, Watershed Authority Groups, and the District will be required to consider, where applicable and to the extent feasible, the following water quality project goals:

a. That the water quality project be designed and located to maximize the water quality benefits, such as through the use of distributed Best Management Practices (BMPs) (i.e., BMPs that are distributed throughout a watershed and are generally located close to pollutant sources).

b. That the water quality project not conflict with the Basin Plan adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board for the Los Angeles Region, applicable MS4 Permit, or other related regulatory programs.

c. That the water quality project be coordinated with a State approved Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, and/or other regional water quality-focused and related planning efforts for the watershed area.

d. That the water quality project be coordinated with other water quality projects implemented pursuant to the Program.

e. That the water quality project contribute to achievement of the water quality elements of plans to restore or revitalize rivers, lakes, creeks, streams, ponds, channels, bays, beaches, and coastal waters within the District, such as the Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan, the Los Angeles River Master Plan, the Sun Valley Watershed Management Plan, the San Gabriel River Master Plan, Rio Hondo Watershed Management Plan and the Emerald Necklace Vision Plan.

f. That the water quality project maximize the effective use of Water Quality Fee revenues by leveraging other private, local, State, and Federal funds for water quality and other project elements.

g. That the water quality project promotes the creation of jobs.

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h. That the water quality project be designed to directly contribute to or support through public education, monitoring and other programs, the management of stormwater and urban runoff to achieve multiple benefits and sustainable solutions and allow for maximum beneficial use of water resources including:

(1) Protecting and enhancing available sources of drinking water supply via water conservation/reuse efforts such as rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, and pretreatment recharge.

(2) Protecting drinking water from contamination.

(3) Flood protection and control.

(4) Protection of public health and safety.

(5) Protection of open space and natural areas.

i. Providing places for recreation, such as parks or ball fields.

j. Creating, restoring, or improving wetlands, riparian, upland and coastal habitats.

k. Providing other public benefits (such as urban blight removal, corollary air quality improvements, celebration of cultural and natural heritage, walkable streets and safe routes to school, outdoor education opportunities, heat island reduction, green house gas uptake, climate action, creation and enhancement of regional green infrastructure networks).

l. Maximizing the creation of local jobs, including the employment of at-risk youth and the use of small local businesses to the extent allowed by law.

m. Contributing to community education and engagement, including but not limited to, K-12 education programs, Stakeholder participation, technical assistance, and the promotion of sustained engagement in the implementation of the Program.

n. Addressing the water quality needs of disadvantaged communities, with priority given to communities where the median household income is 60% below the statewide median household income level.

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o. Maximizing the use of small projects.

3. Eligible Expenditures.

Pursuant to the Los Angeles County Flood Control Act, Water Quality Fee revenues may only be used to fund the costs of the water quality benefit(s) provided by a water quality project. Other costs of water quality projects are not eligible to be funded with revenues from the Water Quality Fee except insofar as those costs are incidental to a water quality benefit provided by the project.

Expenditures eligible for use with Water Quality Fee revenues will include, but not be limited to, the following:

a. Planning, design, construction, implementation, operation and maintenance, and monitoring of water quality projects by Watershed Authority Groups, Municipalities, the District, and their contractors, including consultants, government agencies, and NGOs.

b. Preparation of WQIPs by Watershed Authority Groups, including research and development.

c. Studies, investigations, computer modeling, and monitoring related to pollutants and pollutant loading in water bodies.

d. The cost of adding a water quality element to a project built for another purpose.

e. Preparing environmental documents and obtaining permits necessary to implement eligible water quality projects.

f. Applying for and complying with regulatory permits issued by the Regional Board or State Water Resources Control Board, including MS4 permits.

g. Joint water quality projects with adjoining Watershed Authority Groups, Municipalities, or the District with recognized mutual benefit.

h. Investigation, defense, litigation, settlement and payment of any judgments for claims and liability associated with obligations for the design and implementation of eligible water quality projects.

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i. Operation and maintenance activities, and where applicable, upgrade and replacement of existing facilities providing water quality benefits that meet the requirements of the Program.

j. Debt service and debt issuance costs should the District, a Municipality, or a Watershed Authority Group determine that bonds are prudent and necessary to implement the Program.

k. Cost/benefit analyses and other evaluation of the relative beneficial and adverse aspects and costs of the water quality benefit.

l. Administrative costs. Watershed Authority Group and Municipality administrative costs are limited to (**UNDER CONSIDERATION**) percent of the annual Water Quality Fee revenues allocated to that entity in a fiscal year. "Administrative costs" means all administrative costs of a Watershed Authority Group or a Municipality in connection with the Program, including salary costs for executive officers and managers, clerical support, organizational legal support, payroll and personnel support, and accounting staff, including all applicable employee benefits, overhead costs, and services and supplies. It also includes depreciation costs applicable to fixed assets and all costs associated with consulting and the performance of regular audits.

m. Educational and outreach programs designed to enlist the public in reducing pollution in stormwater and urban runoff.

n. Water quality projects at public schools including infrastructure improvements and curriculum.

o. Real property acquisition, leases, and easements necessary to carry out water quality projects.

p. Local incentive programs as described in Section III(H)(4) below.

q. Municipalities' participation in a Watershed Authority Group.

r. Compensation paid to members of Stakeholder Advisory Panels pursuant to Section III(C)(5)(d).

4. <u>Ineligible Expenditures</u>.

Below are examples of ineligible expenditures or uses of Water Quality Fee revenues:

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a. Non-water quality components of water quality projects except insofar as these components are incidental to the water quality benefit.

b. Expenditures incurred prior to the effective date of the ordinance that the Board is required to adopt to establish criteria for implementation of the Water Quality Fee.

c. Payment of fines imposed by the Regional Board or other regulatory agency unrelated to eligible water quality projects.

d. Expenditures related to the investigation, defense, litigation, or judgment associated with any regulatory permit violation, notices of violations, or noncompliance regulations brought forth by any State, Federal, or local regulatory agency, or a third party unrelated to eligible water quality projects.

e. Expenditures by a Municipality or Watershed Authority Group for the investigation or litigation of any claim or action against the District, County, or their officers, employees or agents alleging improper allocation, withholding or reassignment of Water Quality Fee revenues.

f. Payment of the Water Quality Fee on behalf of any parcel owner, including parcels owned by Municipalities that are subject to the Water Quality Fee.

C. Watershed Authority Group Formation, Governance, and Project Planning and Selection Procedures

1. Formation of Watershed Authority Groups.

A Watershed Authority Group will be established for each of the following nine (9) watershed areas within the boundaries of the District: Ballona Creek, Dominguez Channel, Upper Los Angeles River, Lower Los Angeles River, Rio Hondo River, Upper San Gabriel River, Lower San Gabriel River, Santa Clara River, and Santa Monica Bay. Each Watershed Authority Group will be formed in accordance with the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code and must be approved by the District and comply with the requirements of the Program for a Watershed Authority Group. A joint powers authority ("JPA") must be approved by the District as the Watershed Authority Group for a watershed area in order to be eligible to enter into the transfer agreement in accordance with Section III(A)(2) above. The District will provide administrative and technical assistance relating to the

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formation of the Watershed Authority Groups including developing a model JPA Agreement.

An existing JPA may act as the Watershed Authority Group for a watershed area if it complies with the requirements for a Watershed Authority Group. The Chief Engineer will develop procedures in the event there is more than one JPA seeking to be the Watershed Authority Group for a watershed area.

At the discretion of the District, a Watershed Authority Group may be ineligible to receive disbursements from the Water Quality Fee unless Municipalities with more than fifty percent (50%), collectively, of the combined land area within the watershed area of the Watershed Authority Group are members of the Watershed Authority Group.

2. Boundaries of Watershed Areas.

Descriptions of the watershed areas are included below. The Chief Engineer will be required to prepare and maintain on file a detailed map(s) setting forth the precise boundaries of the watershed areas based upon the Chief Engineer's determination of the hydrologic topographies of the watersheds.

a. Ballona Creek Watershed: The Ballona Creek Watershed includes the Cities of Beverly Hills, Culver City, West Hollywood, the northerly side of the City of Inglewood, various portions of the City of Los Angeles, and various portions of the unincorporated areas of the County, as depicted on maps in the Office of the Chief Engineer. The jurisdiction of the City of Los Angeles is over forty percent (40%) of the total land area in the Ballona Creek Watershed.

b. Dominguez Channel Watershed: The Dominguez Channel Watershed includes the Cities of Carson, Gardena, Hawthorne, Lawndale, Lomita, easterly portion of Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills Estates, westerly portion of Compton, easterly portion of El Segundo, southerly portion of Inglewood, northerly portions of Redondo Beach, westerly portion of Long Beach, Rolling Hills, various portions of the City of Los Angeles, easterly portion of Torrance, and portions of unincorporated areas of the County, as depicted on maps in the Office of the Chief Engineer.

c. Upper Los Angeles River Watershed: The Upper Los Angeles River Watershed includes the Cities of Burbank, Glendale, La Canada Flintridge, Hidden Hills, San

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Fernando, South Pasadena, the westerly portions of Alhambra, easterly portion of Calabasas, Monterey Park, Pasadena, northerly portion of Vernon, various portions of the City of Los Angeles, and various portions of the unincorporated areas of the County, as depicted on maps in the Office of the Chief Engineer. The jurisdiction of the City of Los Angeles is over forty percent (40%) of the total land area in the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed.

d. Lower Los Angeles River Watershed: The Lower Los Angeles River Watershed includes the Cities of Bell, Bell Gardens, Commerce, Compton, Cudahy, Huntington Park, Lynwood, Maywood, South Gate, portions of Carson, the westerly portions of Downey, westerly portion of Lakewood, Long Beach, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Signal Hill, southerly portions of Montebello, southern portion of Monterey Park, Vernon, portions of the City of Los Angeles, and portions of the unincorporated areas of the County, as depicted on maps in the Office of the Chief Engineer.

e. Rio Hondo Watershed: The Rio Hondo River Watershed includes the Cities of Arcadia, Monrovia, San Gabriel, San Marino, Sierra Madre, Temple City, El Monte, South El Monte, Industry, Pico Rivera, Montebello, Rosemead, South Pasadena, Whittier, northerly portion of Monterey Park, easterly portions of Alhambra, Pasadena, and various unincorporated areas of the County, as depicted on maps in the Office of the Chief Engineer.

f. Upper San Gabriel River Watershed: The Upper San Gabriel River Watershed includes the Cities of Azusa, Baldwin Park, Claremont, Covina, Glendora, Industry, La Puente, La Verne, Pomona, San Dimas, Arcadia, Bradbury, La Habra Heights, Pico Rivera, Whittier, Walnut, West Covina, easterly portions of Duarte, El Monte, Irwindale, westerly portion of Diamond Bar, and various unincorporated areas of the County, as depicted on maps in the Office of the Chief Engineer. The jurisdiction of the County is over forty percent (40%) of the total land area in the Upper San Gabriel River Watershed.

g. Lower San Gabriel River Watershed: The Lower San Gabriel River Watershed includes the Cities of Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Lakewood, Norwalk, Santa Fe Springs, Whittier, southern portions of Diamond Bar, easterly portions of Downey, Long Beach, Paramount, Industry, La Habra Heights, Pico Rivera,

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Signal Hill, and unincorporated areas of the County, as depicted on maps in the Office of the Chief Engineer.

h. Santa Clara River Watershed: The Santa Clara River Watershed includes the City of Santa Clarita, and various portions of unincorporated areas of the County and portions of the City of Palmdale, as depicted on maps in the Office of the Chief Engineer. No parcels in the City of Palmdale are subject to the fee. The jurisdiction of the County is over forty percent (40%) of the total land area in the Santa Clara River Watershed.

i. Santa Monica Bay Watershed: The Santa Monica Bay Watershed includes the Cities of Agoura Hills, Hermosa Beach, Malibu, Santa Monica, Westlake Village, westerly portions of Palos Verdes Estates, central and south-westerly portions of Redondo Beach, southerly portion of Rancho Palos Verdes, westerly portions of Calabasas, El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, southerly portion of the City of Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Torrance, portions of the City of Los Angeles, and various portions of unincorporated areas of the County, as depicted on maps in the Office of the Chief Engineer. The jurisdiction of the County is over forty percent (40%) of the total land area in the Santa Monica Bay Watershed.

3. Composition of the Watershed Authority Groups.

All Municipalities that are located within the boundaries of a watershed area and contain parcels that are subject to the Water Quality Fee will be eligible to become members of the Watershed Authority Group for that watershed area. A Municipality that is located in more than one watershed area will be eligible for membership in the Watershed Authority Groups for all watershed areas in which it is located. A Municipality will be able to join a Watershed Authority Group at any time.

For each Watershed Authority Group except the Santa Clara River Watershed Authority Group, the Board of Supervisors will select two (2) public agencies to serve as non-Municipality members. One public agency will be a public water supply, wastewater, or replenishment agency with experience in stormwater capture and/or water reuse for water supply augmentation and the other public agency will be a state conservancy or other public agency with experience identifying and bringing together funding from multiple sources and implementing projects with multiple benefits in the watershed area for the Watershed Authority Group for which

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the agency is selected. For the Santa Clara River Watershed Authority Group, the Board of Supervisors will select only one (1) public agency, meeting the requirements of one of the types of public agencies described above, and this agency will be eligible to serve as a member of the Santa Clara River Watershed Authority Group.

4. Governance of the Watershed Authority Groups.

a. The governing board of each Watershed Authority Group will consist of one representative with demonstrated expertise in water quality from each of its members. The governing body of each member will appoint its representative and one alternate to serve in the absence of the representative.

b. Each member Municipality will have one seat on the Watershed Authority Group Board and one vote on items of business, except that the adoption of a WQIP or funding of projects identified in the WQIP by a Watershed Authority Group will require the consent of any member Municipality whose jurisdiction comprises more than forty percent (40%) of the total land area within such Watershed Authority Group.

c. The representatives of the public water supply, wastewater, or replenishment agency and state conservancy or other public agency will each have one seat on the Watershed Authority Group Board and one vote on items of business.

d. At its first meeting and annually thereafter, the Watershed Authority Group governing board will be required to choose from among its members a chair and vice-chair to serve for one (1) year.

e. A quorum is required for the governing board of a Watershed Authority Group to take action on any item of business. A quorum will consist of a simple majority of the members, except that a quorum of the governing board of the Santa Clara Watershed Authority Group must include both member Municipalities. If a quorum is present, approval of any item of business requires a simple majority vote of those in attendance; except that the adoption of a WQIP or funding of projects identified in the WQIP by a Watershed Authority Group will require the consent of any member Municipality whose jurisdiction comprises more than forty percent (40%) of the total land area within such Watershed Authority Group.

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f. The governing board of each Watershed Authority Group will determine the frequency, location, and schedule for regular meetings. Meetings will be held quarterly at a minimum. Subject to the requirement of quarterly meetings, a regular meeting may be cancelled if the chair determines that there is no business to be transacted and so notifies the members.

g. Each Watershed Authority Group is a public body and will be required to comply with open public meeting requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Sections 54950 – 54963), the Public Records Act (Government Code Section 6200), the Political Reform Act (Government Code Section 87100), and all other laws applicable to such bodies.

5. Duties of the Watershed Authority Groups.

Watershed Authority Groups will have the following duties:

a. Prepare and adopt a WQIP every three (3) years, or sooner if necessary.

b. Plan, implement, and maintain regional and small projects in collaboration with Municipalities and stakeholders, taking into account factors such as the collective impact of a variety of pollutant sources and planning for the entire watershed area rather than individual local areas. .

c. Implement the Public School Clean Water Program as developed by the District in accordance with Section III(E)(K).

d. Create and convene a Stakeholder Advisory Panel in accordance with the transfer agreement provided for in Section III(A)(2) above, including a minimum of three (3) members and a maximum of nine (9) members. Representatives must reflect a balanced variety of stakeholder interests. Watershed Authority Group members may not be Stakeholder Advisory Panel members. Watershed Authority Groups shall compensate Stakeholder Advisory Panel members, unless prohibited by their employers, in the amount of Fifty Dollars ($50) per meeting attended.

e. Establish that the Watershed Authority Group's fiscal year shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30.

f. Prepare and adopt annually, no later than June 30th, an annual budget for the coming fiscal year. The District will

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provide specific directives and guidance for preparation of the budget.

g. Prepare annually, within twelve (12) months after the end of each fiscal year, an audit report for the prior fiscal year prepared by a certified public accountant. The District will be required to provide specific directives and guidance for preparation of audit reports. Watershed Authority Group governing boards will be required to certify the audit report and confirm that all expenditures met the requirements of the Program.

h. Submit to the District annually, within thirty (30) days of the annual anniversary of the adoption of its WQIP, a WQIP implementation progress report summarizing the progress made in achieving targets over the preceding twelve (12) month period. The District will provide specific directives and guidance for preparation of the report.

i. Prepare and maintain a five (5) year schedule for regional projects selected for funding by WAG, including a budget of each regional project's estimated costs, by year and by funding source, including capital and operating costs where applicable.

j. Provide the District additional financial and other information, as required by the District.

k. Help identify project partners and additional sources of funding to augment Water Quality Fee revenues for water quality projects.

6. Duties of the Stakeholder Advisory Panels.

Each Stakeholder Advisory Panel will have the following duties:

a. Identify and recommend regional projects for inclusion in the WQIP.

b. Review draft WQIPs and provide input to the Watershed Authority Group.

c. Recommend regional projects from approved WQIPs for implementation.

d. Serve as liaison between Watershed Authority Group and other Stakeholders, community and interest groups.

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e. Help identify project partners and additional sources of funding to augment regional projects funded by the WAG under the Water Quality Fee.

f. Provide input on other matters affecting the Watershed Authority Group and implementation of the Program, including input to the Watershed Authority Group for its recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on the Oversight Board appointee representing the corresponding watershed area pursuant to Section III(F)(1) below.

7. Administration of the Watershed Authority Groups.

Each Watershed Authority Group will be strictly accountable for all funds, receipts, and disbursements of the Watershed Authority Group. The Treasurer and Tax Collector of the County of Los Angeles ("Treasurer") will act as the treasurer of each Watershed Authority Group and will be the depository and have custody of all funds of each Watershed Authority Group. The Auditor-Controller of the County of Los Angeles ("Auditor") will perform the functions of the controller of each Watershed Authority Group. The Treasurer and Auditor, at their discretion, may delegate their functions to a treasurer or controller designated by the Watershed Authority Group. The Watershed Authority Group will be required to reimburse the Treasurer and the Auditor for costs incurred in connection with the performance of their duties. Members of the governing board of a Watershed Authority Group will not receive compensation for their service to the Watershed Authority Group governing board.

A Watershed Authority Group may contract with businesses, non-governmental organizations ("NGOs"), its members, other government agencies, or the District to perform any work related to the business of the Watershed Authority Group such as studies; preparation of the WQIP; and implementation of regional projects funded by the WAG, which includes activities such as planning, design, construction, and operation and maintenance.

8. Preparation of Water Quality Improvement Plans.

Each Watershed Authority Group will be required to prepare a WQIP for the watershed area it represents that identifies pollutants, establishes targets for improvement, and identifies and prioritizes regional projects to be funded in whole or in part by the WAG for planning, design and implementation within the next five (5) years using proceeds of the Water Quality Fee allocated to the Watershed Authority Group. Watershed Authority Groups will be

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required to consult and receive input and recommendations from its Stakeholder Advisory Panel regarding the preparation of the WQIP.

WQIPs must be prepared and include Sections as follows:

a. Identification of pollutants affecting the watershed area and, as appropriate, their source(s).

b. Selection of improvement targets, and a timeline for accomplishing the targets.

c. Identification and description of water quality projects, as evaluated and prioritized in accordance with Project Selection Evaluation Criteria ("Criteria"), included in Appendix I. All projects to be evaluated must meet the minimum requirements included in Section IIIA of the Criteria and must be ranked based upon the factors set forth in sections IIIB-E of the Criteria.

d. Preparation of a five year financial plan for implementing the WQIP

e. Preparation of a five year schedule for the construction or completion of the WQIP.

f. Description of performance measurements to ensure intended performance of the water quality projects and to measure progress made in accomplishing the targets.

g. Description of the Stakeholder Advisory Panel and Stakeholder involvement process.

9. Approval of Water Quality Improvement Plans.

The following approval process will apply to WQIPs:

a. Watershed Authority Groups will prepare, adopt and submit a WQIP to the Chief Engineer.

b. The Chief Engineer will have sixty (60) days to review WQIPs submitted by Watershed Authority Groups and make findings. During its review, the Chief Engineer may request Watershed Authority Groups to submit additional information or to make changes to the WQIP. Watershed Authority Groups may elect to not follow the Chief Engineer's request and direct for the WQIP to be advanced to the Oversight Board established in accordance with Section III(F) below.

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c. The Oversight Board will have forty-five (45) days to review WQIPs submitted by Watershed Authority Groups, along with the findings and recommendations submitted by the Chief Engineer and comments received from stakeholders, and make findings and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors as to their compliance with the requirements of the Program. During its review, the Oversight Board may request Watershed Authority Groups to submit additional information or to make changes to the WQIP. Watershed Authority Groups may elect to not follow the Oversight Board's request and direct for the WQIP to be advanced to the Board of Supervisors.

d. The Board of Supervisors will be required either to approve the WQIP or return it to the Oversight Board for further work.

e. A Board of Supervisors approved WQIP will be required in order for annual funding to be disbursed to a Watershed Authority Group, except that, as stated in Section III(E)(1)(m), the Watershed Authority Group may request a one-time advance of up to 20% of its first year's allocation of the Water Quality Fee to use for development of the WQIP. The WQIP will be valid for a period of three (3) years after that approval.

10. Development and Implementation of Water Quality Projects.

Each Watershed Authority Group will be required to implement and fund Water Quality Projects from its WQIP following approval of its WQIP by the Board of Supervisors. Water Quality Projects will be implemented and funded in the order of the ranking generated by the Project Selection Evaluation Criteria. Selection of projects for implementation will require the consent of any member Municipality whose jurisdiction comprises more than forty percent (40%) of the total land area within the watershed area.

A Watershed Authority Group will also be required to consult and receive input and recommendations from its Stakeholder Advisory Panel regarding selection of Water Quality Projects.

Watershed Authority Groups will be required to create and maintain a five (5) year schedule for regional projects selected for implementation including a budget forecast of each regional project's estimated costs, by year, by funding source. Additionally, Watershed Authority Groups will be required to provide the District with an annual WQIP Implementation Progress Report pursuant to Section III(C)(5)(h) above.

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Regional projects implemented or constructed by a Watershed Authority Group will be owned, operated, and maintained by the Watershed Authority Group or, by agreement, a Watershed Authority Group may transfer ownership of a regional project to a member of the Watershed Authority Group or to another governmental agency for ownership and maintenance.

D. Program Requirements for Municipal Projects

1. Duties of Municipalities.

Each Municipality receiving funding from the Water Quality Fee will have the following duties:

a. Plan, implement, and maintain municipal projects.

b. Expend Water Quality Fee revenues in the watershed area from which they were collected.

c. Be strictly accountable for all funds, receipts, and disbursements by the Municipality.

d. Prepare and maintain a list of its proposed municipal projects to be financed with Water Quality Fee revenues, including their projected expenditures, and annually, inform the Watershed Authority Group(s) in which it is located, of the municipal projects it intends to implement, with updates as necessary.

e. Prepare, within six (6) months after the end of that Municipality's fiscal year, an audit report for the prior fiscal year prepared by a certified public accountant. The District will provide specific directives and guidance for preparation of audit reports. The governing board of each Municipality will be required to certify the audit report and that all expenditures comply with the requirements of the Program.

f. Provide the District additional financial and other information, as required by the District.

g. Engage stakeholders in the planning process for their municipal projects.

h. A Municipality may, at the discretion of its governing board, enter into a binding agreement with another Municipality, the County, the District, a consultant, or other entity to carry out the Municipality's duties under the Program.

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i. Submit to the Chief Engineer plans for municipal projects in which the total costs of the water quality benefit are expected to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000), for review and submittal to the Oversight Board in accordance with Section III(D)(3) below. Solely for purposes of applying this $2 million threshold, the following terms will have the following meanings: "municipal projects" refers only to infrastructure and capital projects, and includes not only individual projects but also a series of actions which can be characterized as one large project or as logical parts in a chain of actions; and "total costs of the water quality benefit" includes eligible expenditures for all phases of planning, design, and implementation of the portion of a municipal project that provides a water quality benefit. Operation and maintenance activities are exempt from the $2,000,000 threshold as are regional projects included in an approved WQIP. If a Municipality first determines that the total costs of the water quality benefit are not expected to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000), but then subsequently revises its plans or the project budget so that the total costs of the water quality benefit are expected to exceed the $2,000,000 threshold, it must submit plans for the project to the Chief Engineer in a timely manner for review and submittal to the Oversight Board in accordance with Section III(D)(3) below. The requirements in this section do not apply to municipal projects that are also included as regional projects in an approved WQIP in accordance with Section III(C)(8)(d).

j. The $2,000,000 threshold will be adjusted annually according to the Consumer Price Index ("CPI") by the increase, if any, in the CPI for all urban consumers in the Anaheim, Los Angeles, and Riverside areas, as published by the United States Government Bureau of Labor Statistics from March of the previous calendar year to March of the current calendar year.

k. Prepare informational materials to provide members of the public with up-to-date information on the Municipality's actual and budgeted use of revenues from the Water Quality Fee, and make the information available to the public through the Municipality's websites and on request.

2. <u>Development and Implementation of Municipal Projects</u>.

Municipalities will be required to develop and implement their municipal projects in accordance with the following requirements:

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a. Municipal projects must meet required water quality project criteria that are described in stated Section III(B)(1) above.

b. Municipal projects must be planned and selected giving consideration to the water quality project goals listed in Section III(B)(2) above and the evaluation procedures used by Watershed Authority Groups for selection of projects.

c. A balanced variety of stakeholders must be engaged in the project selection process.

d. Municipal projects in which the total costs of the water quality benefit are expected to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000) must be approved by the Oversight Board in accordance with Section III(D)(3) below.

e. Municipal projects constructed or otherwise carried out or implemented by a Municipality shall be owned, operated, and maintained by the Municipality or, by agreement, a Municipality may transfer ownership of a municipal project to another governmental agency for ownership and maintenance.

3. Approval Process for Large Municipal Projects.

The following approval process will apply to new Municipal projects:

a. Municipalities will submit to the Chief Engineer, plans for municipal projects in which the total costs of the water quality benefit are expected to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000), as required by Section III(D)(1)(i) above.

b. The Chief Engineer will have fifteen (15) days to review each such municipal project and make findings and recommendations to the Oversight Board as to its compliance with the requirements of the Program. During its review, the Chief Engineer may request the Municipality to submit additional information or make changes to the municipal project. Municipalities may elect to not follow the Chief Engineer's request and direct for the municipal project to be advanced to the Oversight Board.

c. The Oversight Board will have forty-five (45) days to review such municipal project, along with the finding and recommendations submitted by the Chief Engineer and testimony received from stakeholders, for compliance with the requirements of the Program in order to determine

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whether to approve the municipal project or return it to the Chief Engineer for further work.

In the event that a Municipality needs approval prior to the next meeting of the Oversight Board in order to apply for or receive grant funds for a municipal project in which the total costs of the water quality benefit are expected to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000), the Municipality may submit the project plans to the Chief Engineer for approval, rather than the Oversight Board. The Chief Engineer, on behalf of the Oversight Board, will have ten (10) days to review the municipal project and determine whether to approve it or return it to the Municipality for further work.

E. Duties of the District.

1. Duties of the District

The District shall have the following duties:

a. Administer the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Clean Water, Clean Beaches Program.

b. Provide for the levy and collection of the Water Quality Fee, the distribution of the Water Quality Fee revenues generated by imposition of the Water Quality Fee, and any other related activities associated with administering the Water Quality Fee and the Program.

c. Provide specific directives and guidance to Watershed Authority Groups and Municipalities for preparation of budgets, audit reports, and WQIP Implementation Progress Report.

d. Develop and, subject to approval of the Board of Supervisors, enter into transfer agreements with Municipalities and Watershed Authority Groups pursuant to Section III(A)(2) above.

e. Develop guidelines and requirements for Stakeholder Advisory Panels.

f. Review WQIPs submitted by Watershed Authority Groups and make findings and recommendations to the Oversight Board as to their compliance with the requirements of the Program.

g. Review municipal projects in which the total costs of the water quality benefit are expected to exceed

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Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000) and make findings and recommendations to the Oversight Board as to their compliance with the requirements of the Program.

h. Review and determine whether to approve Municipal projects in which the total costs of the water quality benefit are expected to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000), where grant funds are contemplated.

i. Act as secretary and serve as staff to the Oversight Board.

j. Take actions, as necessary, to comply with Article XIII D of the California Constitution and the requirements of the Program.

k. Develop a model JPA Agreement that may be used as a basis for Watershed Authority Groups, with input from a working group consisting of counsel for Municipalities and the District.

l. Develop policies, guidelines, procedures, standards, or requirements, subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors, including evaluation procedures for selection of water quality projects by Watershed Authority Groups and administrative adjustments to WQIPs, and procedures for the Public Schools Clean Water Program.

m. Upon request by a Watershed Authority Group, authorize a one-time advance of up to twenty percent (20%) of its first year's allocation of the Water Quality Fee collected to be used for development of the first WQIP.

n. Conduct audits not less than once every five years of Municipalities' and WAGs' use of Water Quality Fee revenues for compliance with requirements of the Program.

o. Withhold, at its discretion and pending compliance, future disbursements of Water Quality Fee revenues for a Municipality or Watershed Authority Group that fails to comply with any requirements of the Program.

F. Oversight Board.

1. <u>Composition and Purpose of Oversight Board</u>

An Oversight Board will be established and will consist of thirteen (13) members appointed by the Board of Supervisors as follows: one (1) member from the environmental community; one (1)

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member from the District; two (2) at-large members from the general public; and nine (9) members to represent each of the watershed areas. The Board of Supervisors will appoint each member representing a watershed area as nominated by the corresponding Watershed Authority Group's governing board. The environmental community, District, and general public members may be selected without regard to watershed area. Members representing the watershed areas must either live or have qualifying water quality experience within the watershed area they represent. Oversight Board members, except for the two general public members, shall have a minimum of five (5) years expertise in water quality and be qualified in one or more of the following areas: science, engineering, water supply, flood control, biology, chemistry, law, fiscal analysis, and environmental science. Individuals with these qualifications may be selected from academia, professional societies, nongovernmental organizations, and private and public sector employees.

The purpose of the Oversight Board will be to conduct public hearings and make findings and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on matters related to the WQIPs. The Oversight Board will also review proposed Municipal projects in which the total costs of the water quality benefit are expected to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000) for compliance with the requirements of the Program in order to determine whether to approve or return them to the District for further work, except for projects that are also included on an approved WQIP as set forth in Section III(D)(1).

The District will be responsible for providing administrative and technical support to the Oversight Board and for keeping a record of all proceedings and notifying all interested parties of the findings and decisions of the Oversight Board.

2. Term and Tenure of Members of the Oversight Board.

Members of the Oversight Board will serve for a renewable term of two (2) years, subject to removal by the Board of Supervisors at any time for any reason. If a member is removed, a replacement shall be appointed within sixty (60) days of such removal. Any member whose term has expired may continue to discharge the duties as a member until a successor has been appointed. Terms shall be staggered to ensure continuity.

3. Officers of the Oversight Board.

At its first meeting and annually thereafter, the Oversight Board will be required to choose from among its members a chair and

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vice-chair to serve for one (1) year. The District will serve as staff for the Oversight Board and act as secretary.

4. Meetings - Quorum of the Oversight Board.

The Oversight Board will determine the frequency and schedule for regular meetings, except that meetings will need to be held as necessary to process the review of Watershed Authority Group, WQIPs and Municipal projects in which the total costs of the water quality benefit are expected to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000) in a timely manner. Regular meetings may be cancelled if the chair determines that there is no business to be transacted and so notifies the members.

A quorum is required for the Oversight Board to take action on any item of business. A quorum will consist of seven (7) members of the Oversight Board. If a quorum is present, approval of any item of business requires a simple majority vote of those in attendance.

5. Compensation of the Oversight Board.

The Members of the Oversight Board, unless prohibited by their employer, will be compensated in the amount of Fifty Dollars ($50) per meeting attended. Said compensation will be paid by Water Quality Fee revenues allocated to the District.

6. Rules and Regulations of the Oversight Board.

The Oversight Board will be required to recommend rules and regulations governing its own procedures for adoption by the Board of Supervisors. Prior to consideration by the Board of Supervisors, any such rules and regulations will be submitted to the Watershed Authority Groups and they shall have ninety (90) days to provide written comment thereon. Copies of these rules and regulations will be made available to the public.

The Oversight Board is a public body and will be required to comply with open public meeting requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Sections 5495 – 54963), the Public Records Act (Government Code Section 6200), the Political Reform Act (Government Code Section 87100), and all other laws applicable to such bodies.

7. Duties of Oversight Board.

The Oversight Board will have the following duties:

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a. Review WQIPs submitted by Watershed Authority Groups and make findings and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors as to their compliance with the requirements of the Program.

b. Review for compliance with the requirements of the Program and determine whether to approve Municipal projects in which the total costs of the water quality benefit are expected to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000), which are submitted to the Oversight Board in accordance with Section III(D)(3).

c. Consider comments from Stakeholders on WQIPs and new Municipal projects in which the total costs of the water quality benefit are expected to exceed Two Million Dollars ($2,000,000).

G. Revenue Bonds

Bonds issued hereunder by the governing body of a Municipality, the District, or a Watershed Authority Group, to the extent such entity is authorized by law to issue and sell revenue bonds, may be secured by Water Quality Fee revenues as set forth in this chapter. Only those amounts specifically allocated to a Municipality, the District, or a Watershed Authority Group may be used as security for its respective bonds.

Revenue bonds issued pursuant to this chapter shall not constitute any indebtedness of the District or the County, but shall be payable, principal and interest, only from revenues received from the Water Quality Fee.

H. Provisions Relating to the Calculation and Collection of the Water Quality Fee

1. Calculation of the Water Quality Fee

The Water Quality Fee will be calculated for each parcel subject to the fee based upon the parcel's impervious area, which will be determined based upon the lot size and other specified characteristics of the parcel, to reflect the parcel's proportional allocation of the cost of the projects and services that are funded by revenues from the Water Quality Fee. The boundaries of the area, and identification of the parcels, subject to the fee and the method for calculating the Water Quality Fee for each parcel are supported by, and set forth in, an engineer's report prepared at the direction of the Chief Engineer and filed with the clerk of the Board of Supervisors. The Chief Engineer will make the engineer's report available to any person upon request at no charge. The maximum

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rate used for calculating the Water Quality Fee, as set forth in the engineer's report, will remain the same from year to year, unless an increase is approved in accordance with Article XIII D of the California Constitution. The Chief Engineer may periodically re-evaluate the characteristics of parcels to determine whether improvements or other changes to the parcel's characteristics have taken place that would affect the ensure accuracy of Fee calculations, amount of the Water Quality Fee imposed on such parcel, and to re-calculate the Fee as appropriate.

The Chief Engineer will determine annually that the revenues derived from the Water Quality Fee do not exceed the cost of providing the Service. The Board of Supervisors will reduce the Water Quality Fee in the event that revenues are found to exceed the cost of providing the Service.

2. Collection—General Procedure

The Water Quality Fee will be collected for each fiscal year on the property tax roll in the same manner, and at the same time as, the general taxes of the County are collected or through direct invoicing to parcel owners that do not receive a consolidated property tax bill. The Auditor will provide each Watershed Authority Group with an annual accounting of the total revenues collected from the Water Quality Fee in their watershed, including the revenues collected in each Municipality. The Auditor will also provide an annual statement of the revenues collected from the Water Quality Fee to each Municipality.

Insofar as feasible and not inconsistent with the Program, the times and procedures regarding exemptions, due dates, installment payments, corrections, cancellations, refunds, late payments, penalties, liens, and collections for secured roll ad valorem property taxes will be applicable to the collection of the Water Quality Fee.

3. Claims for Reimbursement and Appeals

A claim and appeal process will be established as follows:

a. Contesting the Water Quality Fee: Any parcel owner aggrieved by the Water Quality Fee will be able to seek review of the fee on one or more of the following grounds:

(1) Incorrect Land Use Code

(2) Incorrect Owner or Change in Ownership

(3) Subdivision or Merger of Parcels

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(4) Incorrect Area of Parcel

(5) Mathematical Error in the Calculation of the Fee

(6) Contiguous parcels with common ownership and land use which function as one larger parcel. Note: The District may require the parcel owner to file appropriate covenants with the Registrar Recorder in order to qualify.

Discrepancy of more than 10% between the percentage of impervious cover assigned to the parcel's land use code according to the fee calculation formula the parcel's actual impervious cover as determined based upon [a review of GPS data?].

(7) Parcel runoff and/or pollution is reduced by approved on-site stormwater BMPs as set forth in Appendix II., Fee Reduction Program.

In order to be entitled to review of the Water Quality Fee, the parcel owner will be required to submit a claim to the Chief Engineer on a form provided by the Chief Engineer, including all of the information and documentation required by the form and any additional information and documentation requested by the Chief Engineer which the Chief Engineer deems necessary to determine whether a fee adjustment is appropriate.

For claims based upon grounds (1) through (6), the Chief Engineer will review the claim and make any adjustments to the Water Quality Fee that are appropriate based upon the criteria set forth above, and will be required to send the parcel owner written notice of his or her decision. The Chief Engineer may also inspect the parcel in question. Upon request by the Chief Engineer and upon reasonable notice, the parcel owner shall provide access to the parcel to the Chief Engineer. If the Chief Engineer determines that the Water Quality Fee billed to the parcel owner exceeds the fee that should have been charged, or that the parcel owner is otherwise entitled to a reduction, he or she shall refund any amounts that were overpaid for up to four years prior to the close of the fiscal year in which the claim was submitted. The Chief Engineer will also be required to submit any adjustments in the Water Quality Fee to the Auditor, Municipality, and Watershed Authority Group.

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b. Appeals: Any parcel owner who disagrees with the decision of the Chief Engineer will be able to appeal the decision and request an administrative hearing. Any such appeal must be submitted in writing within thirty (30) days of the date the notice of decision was mailed, and must contain a statement as to why the parcel owner contests the decision. After receiving a timely appeal, the Chief Engineer will be required to schedule an administrative hearing before a hearing officer designated by the Chief Engineer. The parcel owner will be given not less than ten (10) calendar day's prior written notice by first class mail, postage prepaid, of the date, time, and place of the hearing and the name of the hearing officer who will conduct the administrative hearing. The Chief Engineer will be required to designate a hearing officer who was not involved in the decision on the claim. The decision of the hearing officer will be final.

c. The submission of a claim or appeal will not relieve any parcel owner of the obligation to pay amounts on the tax bill that are due. If an adjustment is subsequently made which reduces the amount of the Water Quality Fee, the parcel owner will receive a refund of any overpayment.

d. Additional procedures for addressing requests by property owners for adjustments to the fees imposed on their properties may be included in the Implementation Manual.

4. Incentive Programs

Incentive Programs will be developed and administered by Municipalities, WAGs, and the Flood Control District, and may be utilized at the discretion of these agencies to encourage property owners to implement BMPs on their parcels. Incentive programs will be designed to address the highest priority water quality concerns in each watershed area. Examples include grant programs, low-cost financing, awards programs, funding to construct BMPs, or funding to parcel owners for accepting off-site runoff. BMPs funded through incentive programs may qualify the parcel for the Fee Reduction program as well.

5. Rate Reduction Program

Parcels with qualifying on-site stormwater BMPs are eligible for a rate reduction of up to 80 percent of the Fee paid, based on the amount of stormwater runoff managed on-site, as determined by the District. Appeals are intended to encourage property owners to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff and pollution originating

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from their parcel. The District will establish a list of acceptable BMPs. Details of this program are included in Appendix II.

6. Sunset of Fee

(UNDER CONSIDERATION)

I. Miscellaneous Provisions

1. Carryover of Uncommitted Municipality and Watershed Authority Group Water Quality Fee Revenues.

Municipalities will be able to carry over uncommitted Water Quality Fee revenues for up to five (5) years from the end of the fiscal year in which those revenues are transferred from the District to the Municipality's account, with additional requirements as may be included in the transfer of proceeds agreement as described in Section III(A)(2) above, provided that sufficient details on future water quality projects are included in the annual audit report.

A Watershed Authority Group will be able to carry over uncommitted Water Quality Fee revenues for up to five (5) years from the end of the fiscal year in which those revenues are transferred from the District to the Watershed Authority Group's account, with additional requirements as may be included in the transfer of proceeds agreement, provided that a WQIP has been approved by the Board of Supervisors and that sufficient details on future water quality projects are included in the annual audit report.

Uncommitted Water Quality Fee revenues that are carried over for more than five (5) years will revert back to the District. The District will have two (2) years to spend reverted revenues from Municipalities on District water quality projects within that municipality's jurisdiction. The District will also have two (2) years to spend reverted revenues from Watershed Authority Groups on District water quality projects in the same watershed area from which the revenues were collected or be returned to the parcel owners.

Water Quality Fee revenues not spent within seven (7) years from the end of the fiscal year in which they were collected will be refunded to the parcel owners.

2. Recordkeeping Requirements.

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The following recordkeeping and audit requirements will apply to with respect to the Water Quality Fee and the Program:

a. Water Quality Fee revenues received by the District, Municipalities, and Watershed Authority Groups will be required to be held in separate interest-bearing accounts and not combined with other funds. Interest earned on Water Quality Fee revenues will be required to be used for water quality projects in the Watershed Authority Group or Municipality in which it was earned, consistent with the requirements of the Program.

b. Municipalities, Watershed Authority Groups and the District will be required to retain, for a period of ten (10) years after certification by their governing boards, the annual audit reports outlined in Sections III(C)(5), III(D)(1), III(E)(r) above. Municipalities and Watershed Authority Groups, upon demand by authorized representatives of the District, including the Auditor, will be required to make those reports available for examination and review or audit by the District or its authorized representative.

c. Municipalities, Watershed Authority Groups, and the District will be required to retain, for a period of ten (10) years after water quality project completion, all records necessary to determine the amounts expended, and eligibility of water quality projects. Municipalities and Watershed Authority Groups, upon demand by authorized representatives of the District, including the Auditor, will be required to make such records available for examination and review or audit by the District or its authorized representative.

d. At all reasonable times, Municipalities and Watershed Authority Groups will be required to permit the Chief Engineer, or his or her authorized representative, to examine all water quality projects that were erected, constructed, implemented, operated, or maintained using Water Quality Fee revenues. Municipalities and Watershed Authority Groups will be required to permit the authorized representative, including the Auditor, to examine, review or audit, and transcribe any and all audit reports, other reports, books, accounts, papers, maps, and other records that relate to projects funded with revenues from the Water Quality Fee.

3. <u>Procedures for Addressing Misuse of Water Quality Fee Revenues and Failure to Comply with the Requirements of the Program</u>.

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a. If a Municipality or Watershed Authority Group is found by the Chief Engineer to have misused Water Quality Fee revenues, it will, upon written notification by the Chief Engineer, be required to refund those revenues, including associated interest, to the District within thirty (30) days of notification. The revenues will then, at the Chief Engineer's discretion, either be returned to the Municipality or Watershed Authority Group from where they came, or be reassigned and used to plan, implement, and maintain water quality projects:

(1) Water Quality Fee revenues misused by a Municipality will be reassigned to the corresponding Watershed Authority Group for funding regional projects that are located within the jurisdiction of the Municipality.

(2) Water Quality Fee revenues misused by a Watershed Authority Group will be reassigned to the District for its use in implementing water quality projects in the same watershed area from which the revenues were collected or be returned to the parcel owners.

Failure to repay misused Water Quality Fee revenues by the required date will result in immediate suspension of Water Quality Fee revenue disbursement to that entity.

b. If a Municipality or Watershed Authority Group fails to comply with applicable requirements of the Program, the Chief Engineer, at her discretion, may withhold future disbursements of Water Quality Fee revenues pending compliance. Withheld disbursements will be retained by the Chief Engineer for a period of five (5) years after which, if the offending issue has not been resolved, they will revert back to the District. The District will have two (2) years to spend the reverted revenues on qualified water quality projects in the same watershed from which they were collected.

c. Municipalities and Watershed Authority Groups may appeal the decision of the Chief Engineer and request an administrative hearing. Any such appeal must be in writing, must be made within sixty (60) days of the date the Chief Engineer's written decision was mailed, and must contain a statement as to why the District's decision is being disputed. After receiving a timely appeal, the Chief Engineer will schedule an administrative hearing and designate a hearing officer. The Municipality or Watershed Authority Group will

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be given not less than thirty (30) calendar days prior written notice by first class mail, of the date, time, and place of the hearing and the name of the hearing officer who will conduct the administrative hearing. The Chief Engineer must designate a hearing officer who was not involved in the Chief Engineer's prior decision. The decision of the hearing officer shall be final.

The submission of a claim or appeal does not relieve the Municipality or Watershed Authority Group of the obligation to refund the Water Quality Fee revenues in dispute. If the hearing officer determines an adjustment is required, that adjustment will be reflected in the next disbursement of Water Quality Fee revenues.

4. District Held Harmless.

The District will not be required to accept ownership or responsibility for any water quality project developed, implemented or constructed by a Municipality or a Watershed Authority Group with Water Quality Fee revenues. Unless the District enters into an express agreement with a Watershed Authority Group or Municipality to the contrary, neither the District, nor the County to the extent that it is acting on behalf of the District,, their officers, employees, agents or volunteers ("District Indemnitees") will be liable in connection with errors, defects, injuries, property damage caused by or attributed to any water quality project that is funded in whole or in part with Water Quality Fee revenues, and each Municipality and Watershed Authority Group will be required to indemnify the District Indemnitees and hold them harmless for claims, liability, and expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred by any District Indemnitees as a result of any water quality project developed, implemented, or constructed by the Municipality or Watershed Authority Group that is funded with the Water Quality Fee, except for claims, liability, and expenses, including attorneys fees, resulting from the sole negligence or willful misconduct of District Indemnitees.

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APPENDIX I

Clean Water, Clean Beaches Project Selection Criteria
&
Clean Water, Clean Beaches Community Education Program Criteria

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Clean Water, Clean Beaches Project Selection Criteria*

The purpose of this document is to establish criteria to be employed by Watershed Area Groups (WAG) when selecting which projects to fund.

The document is organized in the following parts:

- Introduction
- Part I: Overarching Criteria and Goals from Ordinance
- Part II: Project Selection Criteria Guidelines
- Part III: Infrastructure Guidelines
  - Project Criteria Scoring Framework
  - Project Selection Process Schedule
- Part IV: Community Education Program Criteria Guidelines

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***NOTE: These are draft criteria guidelines; they have not yet been approved**

Introduction

The Clean Water, Clean Beaches Project Selection Criteria Committee (PSCC) met to provide input into the quantitative and qualitative criteria that will be used to select projects funded in whole or in part with Clean Water fee revenues. The specific charge to this group was to:

- Advise Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District) staff on how to determine the types of projects and programs that can best achieve the ultimate goal of the Clean Water, Clean Beaches Ordinance, which is to improve and protect water quality in the lakes, rivers, creeks, coastal waters and the ocean within the District, as well as to provide other beneficial uses of water, including enhancing local supplies of drinking water.
- Establish criteria that will be used to determine the funding eligibility of proposed water quality improvement projects and their potential to achieve the goals of the Ordinance.
- Serve as a communication link between the District and organizations and municipalities that have stakeholder interest in the Ordinance and the implementation of the Clean Water, Clean Beaches Program

The group reviewed existing criteria used by other funding entities, met six times in person, and conducted online meetings to review and revise these Draft Project Selection Criteria. The resulting Criteria reflect the consensus of the committee, although not every decision was unanimous.

Project Committee

Committee members represent a diverse group of cities geographically and in size, and community stakeholders with a proven interest and expertise in developing multi-objective projects to manage stormwater. The following municipalities and organizations comprised the Project Selection Criteria Committee:

- Angela George, County of Los Angeles
- Sharam Kharaghani, City of Los Angeles
- Tom Modica, City of Long Beach
- Ken Farfsing, City of Signal Hill
- Neal Shapiro, City of Santa Monica
- Heather Maloney, City of Monrovia
- Joe Bellomo, City of Westlake Village
- Kirsten James, Heal the Bay
- Rebecca Drayse, TreePeople
- Shelley Luce, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
- Claire Robinson, Amigos de los Rios
- Belinda Faustinos, Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (formerly)

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Part I: Overarching Criteria and Goals from Ordinance

The draft Clean Water/Clean Beaches Ordinance outlines overarching criteria and goals:

1. Required Water Quality Project Criteria.

a. All water quality projects funded in whole or in part with Water Quality Fee revenues will be required to comply with the following criteria:

(1) That the water quality project demonstrates the ability to provide and sustain long-term water quality benefits.

(2) That the water quality project is based on generally accepted scientific and engineering principles and the best available information.

(3) Pursuant to the Los Angeles County Flood Control Act, only the costs of the water quality benefit(s) provided by a water quality project can be funded with revenues from the Water Quality Fee. Other costs of water quality projects are not eligible to be funded with revenues from the Water Quality Fee.

b. All regional projects funded under this chapter are required to be included in an approved WQIP that is prepared in accordance with the Implementation Manual.

2. Water Quality Project Goals.

In determining the water quality projects to be funded with revenues from the Water Quality Fee, Municipalities, Watershed Authority Groups, and the District will be required to consider, where applicable, the following water quality project goals:

a. That the water quality project be designed and located to maximize the water quality benefits.

b. That the water quality project not conflict with the Basin Plan adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board for the Los Angeles Region, applicable MS4 Permit, or other related regulatory programs.

c. That the water quality project be coordinated with a State approved Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, and/or other regional water quality-focused and related planning efforts for the watershed area.

d. That the water quality project be coordinated with other water quality projects implemented pursuant to the Program.

e. That the water quality project contribute to achievement of the water quality elements of plans to restore or revitalize rivers, lakes, creeks, streams, ponds, channels, bays, beaches, and coastal

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waters within the District, such as the Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan, the Los Angeles River Master Plan, the Sun Valley Watershed Management Plan, the San Gabriel River Master Plan, the Rio Hondo Watershed Management Plan and the Emerald Necklace Vision Plan.

f. That the water quality project maximize the effective use of Water Quality Fee revenues by leveraging other private, local, State, and Federal funds for water quality and other project elements.

h. That the water quality project promotes the creation of jobs.

g. That the water quality project be designed to directly contribute to or support through public education, monitoring and other programs, and management of stormwater and urban runoff to achieve multiple benefits and sustainable solutions, and allow for maximum beneficial use of water resources including:

(1) Protecting and enhancing available sources of drinking water supply via water conservation/use efforts such as rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, and pretreatment recharge.

(2) Protecting drinking water from contamination.

(3) Providing flood protection and control.

(4) Protecting and improving public health and safety.

(5) Protecting and improving open space and natural areas.

(6) Providing places for active and passive recreation, such as parks and ball fields.

(7) Creating, restoring, or improving wetlands, riparian, upland and coastal habitats.

(8) Providing other public benefits (such as urban blight removal, corollary air quality improvements, celebration of cultural and natural heritage, walkable streets and safe routes to school, outdoor education opportunities, heat island reduction, green house gas uptake, climate action, creation and enhancement of regional green infrastructure networks).

In addition to these criteria and goals, the Project Selection Criteria Committee established by the County developed the following criteria to be employed when selecting specific projects and programs for funding.

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Part II: Project and Program Selection Guidelines

The purpose of the criteria described in this document is to provide guidance for selecting the projects and programs best suited to achieve the water quality priorities and targets identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plans (WQIPs) developed by the Watershed Authority Groups (WAGs) for each watershed.

The primary purpose of each project element funded by this Fee must be to improve water quality by reducing pollutant loads to impaired waters within the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. Wherever feasible, projects are to be designed to achieve multiple objectives and purposes, including increasing water supply, improving flood management, creating or enhancing habitat and recreation benefits, and increasing public awareness. Where possible, projects should also be designed to address source control, leverage funds, promote collaboration between other agencies, organizations and community stakeholders, and utilize a strategic adaptive management approach.

In order to address the challenges we face as a region, some projects may be large-scale, high-volume solutions. However, the District's current hydrological modeling of over 2,000 sub-watersheds suggests that many projects funded will be small, distributed solutions, employing multi-objective, community-scale strategies. Additionally, as part of their WQIPs, WAGs will utilize Distributed Water Quality Projects maps that show pollution loads, overlaid with maps of park-poor neighborhoods and disadvantaged communities (as mapped by census tracts) to help determine potential locations for water quality improvement projects.

Eligible Expenditures

Funds may be used for projects and programs, including program design, management and implementation; research and development projects and programs to develop new BMPs or other new technology to address water quality priorities; community engagement, education and outreach programs; capital project design bid and award; project construction and management; operations and inspection; monitoring; and operations and maintenance.

Eligible Funding Recipients

Project proposal applicants include public agencies, municipalities, non-profit organizations and other entities as determined by the WAGs.

Eligible Project Types

Eligible projects and programs shall include, but are not limited to:

- Urban runoff reduction, cleanup, control and diversion (including bacterial and pathogen control, and trash reduction and capture).
- Distributed and regional stormwater capture/conservation/use facilities

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- Projects that employ low impact development (LID), and natural solutions including wetlands, constructed wetlands, bioswales and coastal, upland and other habitat restoration
- Programs that support achievement of WQIP water quality targets and objectives including, but not limited to, public education, K-12 curriculum development, and training of local workers to implement and maintain projects
- Public/private partnerships to support pollution reduction
- Retrofits, including the installation of rain barrels, cisterns and larger tanks; permeable pavement; downspout disconnects; and rain gardens
- Research and development
- Projects that employ native plant landscaping, urban forestry and other "green" water quality solutions
- Park development, improvement and retrofits (including multi-objective micro parks, street-end parks, municipal park retrofits – with bioswales, constructed wetlands, LID elements, urban forestry)
- Public building and school projects
- Green street and parking lot projects to improve permeability and stormwater capture
- Coastal habitat restoration
- Incentive programs for private property BMP projects
- Maintenance and monitoring of stormwater improvements
- Maintenance of projects constructed prior to passage of this measure, or funded by sources other than the Water Quality Fee may be considered for funding if it is determined that such funding is necessary to meet WQIP priorities and targets.
- Community education programs that support water quality improvement goals

In order to be eligible:

- No project shall lead to a net loss of habitat, hardening of creeks or rivers or net loss of recreation access.
- No project shall exacerbate any existing environmental problems in the vicinity or downstream of the project.
- Large scale and regional projects shall be monitored for effectiveness pre- and post-construction.
- Project shall incorporate operation and maintenance components and the associated costs shall be included in the proposal.

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Part III: Infrastructure Criteria

This narrative provides additional information about the criteria for the purpose of reducing subjectivity when applied to specific proposed projects. The criteria used to score infrastructure projects are described below and should be used in conjunction with the scoring framework that follows. The primary criteria are divided into five categories (A through E), with the criteria in category "A" being mandatory. Within each category there are several sub-criteria that will help to determine the overall ranking of each proposed project. Partial points may be given for any category in B through E, on a sliding scale.

The infrastructure criteria shall be applied in the following manner:

- Small projects (those that manage runoff from up to 10 acres, which may be an aggregation of several non-contiguous projects in a linked system serving a total of 10 acres or less) and large projects (>10 acres) shall be evaluated against like-sized projects. WAGs shall allocate some minimum level of funding to small projects.

A. The Proposed Project Improves Water Quality

To be eligible for funding, projects must achieve all of the sub-criteria in this category. These sub-criteria are mandatory. Projects that do not initially meet all the sub-criteria in category A will be given feedback about what is missing or inadequate and a 60-day time period in which to resubmit a revised application. Projects that do successfully meet all A sub-criteria move onto the scoring phase beginning with Category B.

A1. Project addresses TMDLs from current 303(d) lists and/or anticipated future pollutants of concern, providing sustainable water quality benefits.

A1-1. Application describes the pollution problem and the current loads for the drainage area served, lists and quantifies pollutants to be reduced, describes dry and wet weather current loads and load reductions separately.

A1-2. Project is located in a high priority catchment area as identified by water quality modeling and/or monitoring.

A1-3. Application describes the magnitude and percent of overall load reduction predicted by the implementation of BMP.

A1-4. Project helps to achieve water quality standards compliance for the impaired waters.

A2. The project addresses priorities and targets for water quality improvement established in the WQIP.

A2-1. An assessment of conditions in the watershed determines that the project helps meet water quality goals, given existing research, study findings and other relevant information.

A2-2. The project addresses pollutants affecting the watershed area as identified in the WQIP.

A2-3. The project is consistent with potential water quality project concepts outlined in the WQIP.

A2-4. The project does not increase other pollutants of concern or reduces them.

A3. The requested funds are directed only to activities necessary to provide the water quality benefit(s) that will be provided by the project.

A3-1. The application breaks down all costs, assigning costs for aspects not associated with water quality-related project elements to other funding sources.

A4. Project is based on best available scientific and engineering principles.

A4-1. BMPs have been demonstrated to be effective in similar settings (i.e. soil conditions, weather conditions, geography).

A4-2. The BMP is a proven BMP for pollutant removal of the types described, based on performance data (ASCE, USEPA, or site-specific BMP performance data). An exception will be made for projects specifically designed to test new technologies and expand the body of performance data.

A5. The proposal describes how the proposing organization has or will acquire the technical ability to implement, operate and maintain the project over its life time. Costs for maintenance, operations and monitoring of WAG projects shall be included in each infrastructure proposal.

A6. Verification of performance is incorporated into the project.

A6-1. Baseline levels of the pollutant(s) the project is designed to reduce have been determined.

A6-2. A plan explaining how performance of the project will be verified has been submitted.

A6-3 Large-scale and regional projects include monitoring for water quality benefits pre- and post-construction.

A6-4 Small-scale projects, at a minimum, incorporate collective monitoring and performance data.

B. The Proposed Project Provides Multiple Benefits

Depending on either the type or number of additional benefits, projects can receive up to 30 points for achieving other benefits. First, projects that demonstrate a water supply benefit will receive an additional 1-6 points. Second, projects can receive up to another 24 points (1-3 points each for B2 through B9, on a sliding scale), based on how many of the other benefits and the magnitude of the benefits they are also able to achieve.

In all cases, projects must describe and document the magnitude of the additional benefit. Projects that claim to have multiple benefits but do not initially receive points will be given feedback about what is missing or inadequate and a 60-day time period in which to resubmit a revised application.

B1. Water supply (up to 6 points)

B1-1 The project augments, remediates or protects water supply, documented through modeling, engineering or technical studies. Scoring is related to the magnitude of water supply benefit to be achieved.

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B2. Flood control (up to 3 points)

B2-1. The project reduces regional or local flood risk through increased stormwater conveyance or retention capability or other means of flood reduction

B3. Public health and recreation (up to 3 points)

B3-1. The project creates or enhances recreational opportunities that promote physical activity in outdoor settings at the project site and/or will link up with a connected recreational system, e.g. regional bike or hiking trail; enhanced school sites.

B3-2. The recreational opportunities address an environmental justice issue or environmental inequity issue. For example, it is in an area underserved for parks as shown in the Distributed Water Quality Projects maps.

B3-3. Project contributes to a multi-objective park or school site demonstration project

B3-4. Project is designed to provide other public health benefits, e.g. improves walkability by creating better pedestrian pathways, or provides a tree canopy to reduce heat islands and improve air quality.

B4. Disadvantaged communities (up to 3 points)

B4-1. Project benefits a Disadvantaged Community (DAC). For example, a community (based on census tracts) where the median household income is below 80% of the statewide median household income level (additional points awarded for communities where the median household income level is below 70% and below 60% of the statewide median household income level), as shown in the Distributed Water Quality Projects maps.

B5. Economic development/job creation (up to 3 points)

B5-1. The project demonstrates how many local or youth corps jobs will be created during planning, construction, operations and ongoing maintenance

B5-2. The project includes an outreach program designed to involve local, minority- or women-owned businesses and contractors

B5-3. The project describes and, where possible, quantifies how the area addressed will be enhanced economically

B5-4. The project is part of a training program for local youth

B5-5. The project is a public/private partnership

B6. Habitat protection and/or restoration (up to 3 points)

B6-1. The project protects, enhances or creates open space and/or habitat value at the project site, including, but not limited to:

- Removal of invasive, non-native species
- Recovery of native habitat and species diversity appropriate to the site

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- Protection, enhancement, restoration and/or creation of wetlands, riparian, upland or coastal habitats
- Provides adequate buffers along aquatic systems
- Creates wildlife linkages using riparian corridors.
- Project converts grass and high water use plantings to native and habitat friendly low water use plantings
- Protects open space

B7. Public education (up to 3 points)

B7-1. Educational elements of project extend beyond basic labels or stencils on storm drains.

B7-2. Site-specific educational and interpretive materials to be available and/or displayed on site or on line that describe BMPs, pollutants mitigated by project, etc.

B7-3. The educational materials are culturally and linguistically relevant to local community members.

B7-4. The project allows local students to actively engage in learning about water pollution reduction.

B7-5. Provides habitat discovery or nature education areas.

B7-6. Project boosts awareness of ways community can proactively protect water quality.

B8. Demonstration projects (up to 3 points)

B8-1. The project is a replicable demonstration project.

B8-2 The project is scalable so as to be replicable at different scales in different situations.

B8-3. The project demonstrates BMP effectiveness.

B8-4. The project adapts BMPs and stormwater programs that were successfully implemented in other regions.

B8-5. The project provides data to improve the WQIPs of one or more WAGs.

B9. Additional resources from other sources (up to 3 points)

B9-1. The project leverages funds from other private, local, state or federal sources that increase available funds by 10% or more.

B9-2. The proposing entity has partnered with other agencies, cities, non-profit organizations or private donors to leverage additional funds or other resources, including in-kind

B9-3. Additional funds or other resources, including in-kind, are documented as either already obtained or as having a strong likelihood of being obtained.

C. Magnitude of Water Quality Improvements

Projects can receive a maximum of 40 points, depending on whether they effectively target TMDLs, the degree of load reduction, the magnitude of impact, and consistency with watershed management and/or other water quality improvement plans.

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C1. Consistency with TMDL or other watershed management plans and requirements, including approved TMDLs or other anticipated TMDLs on the 303(d) list, and other pollutants of concern (up to 10 points)

C1-1. The project has a high level of alignment with TMDL implementation plans and/or compliance schedules, including pollution problems identified by an adopted TMDL and specific strategies selected to target those pollutants.

C1-2. The project has a high level of alignment with watershed management plans for the area in which the project is located or will benefit, including pollution problems or the sources of those pollutants as identified by the watershed management plan and specific strategies selected to target those pollutants.

C1-3. The project has a high level and/or multiple areas of alignment with, and links to, specific strategies or requirements in the adopted Basin Plan, MS4 Permit, approved IRWMP, California Ocean Plan, California Toxics Rule and other regional water quality planning efforts or regulations.

C2. Magnitude of Impact (up to 30 points)

C2-1 Degree of targeted TMDL/pollutant load reduction and/or resulting concentration reduction in receiving waters. Based upon the expected pollutant load or concentration reductions, project maximizes reduction in impact within the receiving waters.

C2-2 Project results in reduction of more than one impairing pollutant.

C2-3 Project results in large volume of water treated or diverted relative to project size and cost.

D. The Proposed Project Is Cost-Effective

Projects can receive up to 20 points by demonstrating how the project will maximize the impact of allotted funds. (Additional resources—funds or in-kind services—may be considered insofar as they reduce total cost of project.)

D1. The total cost per unit over the life of the project (i.e., cost per volume, cost per acre, cost per gallon) of pollutant reduction is below average compared to other projects being considered by the WAG for similar pollutants (up to 10 points).

D2. The total cost of operations and maintenance over the life of the project is below average compared to other projects being considered by the WAG for similar pollutants (up to 10 points).

E. The Proposed Project Presents a High-Level of Readiness for Implementation

Projects can receive up to 10 points (up to 2 points for each sub-bullet) if the proposing organization can demonstrate it has undertaken actions required for effectively translating the project from concept to reality, or has developed a project management plan detailing how those steps will be carried out at each stage in its development.

E1. The project has strong support of the WAG Stakeholder Advisory Panel

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E2. The project has demonstrable, strong community-based support from stakeholder groups

E3. There is a site available for the project; if it needs to be purchased, there is a plan and a process underway for acquiring the site.

E4. CEQA requirements have been satisfied; CEQA is ready, well underway or expected to be completed within a year.

E5. The project is ready for construction and can be completed reasonably quickly; or is in the concept design phase and will be ready for construction within a reasonable period of time; or a well-conceived multi-year plan is in place for a project with an extended timeframe necessary to move successfully through each phase of its development.

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Infrastructure Project Scoring Criteria Framework

Framework Component	Score Range	Scoring Standards	Score
A. The proposed project improves water quality	**MANDATORY**	**Projects must incorporate all five elements (A1 to A6) to be eligible for funding consideration:**	Yes/No
		A1. Project addresses TMDLs or impairments from current 303(d) lists or anticipated future pollutants of concern, providing sustainable water quality benefits	
		A2. Project is consistent with the priorities and targets for improvement established in the WQIP.	
		A3. The requested funds are directed only to achieving the water quality benefit(s) that will be provided by the project	
		A4. Project is based on best available scientific and engineering principles	
		A5. The proposal describes how the proposing organization has or will acquire the technical ability to implement, operate and maintain the project.	
		A6. Verification of performance is incorporated into the project	
		Pass or Fail Section A	
B. The proposed project provides multiple benefits	**30 points maximum**	**The project delivers additional benefits beyond water quality.**	Yes/No
	6 points	**B1.** Water supply	
	3 points	**B2.** Flood control	
	3 points	**B3.** Public health and recreation	
	3 points	**B4.** Disadvantaged communities	
	3 points	**B5.** Economic development/job creation	
	3 points	**B6.** Habitat protection and/or restoration	
	3 points	**B7.** Public education	
	3 points	**B8.** Demonstration project with replicability	
	3 points	**B9.** Leverages additional funds	
		Total Points Section B	

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C. **The proposed project can achieve significant water quality benefits**	**40 points maximum**	**The project achieves one or more of the following:**	Yes/No
	10 points	**C1.** Consistency with plans and requirements	
	30 points	**C2.** Magnitude of impact	
		Total Points Section C	
D. **The proposed project is cost-effective**	**20 points maximum**	**The project achieves one or more of the following:**	Yes/No
	10 points	**D1.** The total cost per unit of pollutant reduction is below average	
	10 points	**D2.** The total cost of operations and maintenance of the project is below average	
		Total Points Section D	
E. **The proposed project presents a high level of readiness for implementation**	**10 points maximum**	**The project achieves one or more of the following:**	Yes/No
	2 points	**E1.** The project has strong support of the WAG Stakeholder Advisory Panel	
	2 points	**E2.** The project has strong local community-based support	
	2 points	**E3.** There is a site available for the project or a plan and a process underway for acquiring the site.	
	2 points	**E4.** CEQA requirements have been satisfied; CEQA is ready, well underway or expected to be completed within a year.	
	2 points	**E5.** Project is ready for implementation within a reasonable time, or there is a plan demonstrating how it will develop over a more extended time	
		Total Points Section E	
TOTAL POINTS			

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Project Selection Process Schedule Guideline

Proposal Submittal

Applications must contain all information described above. Applications shall include detailed project descriptions, attachments with supplemental materials such as feasibility studies, pilot projects, maps, diagrams, examples of application of technology in other locations, and associated monitoring data on project performance, letters of support, copies of agreements, or any other applicable materials.

Step		Time Frame
1.	WAG call for proposals	90 days
2.	Review Process: WAG convenes scoring committee; Reviews Framework Component A only. Projects that pass will move on. Projects that fail will receive notification and a request to prepare re-submittal.	60 days
3.	Projects that passed reviewed for Categories B-E; projects that failed Category A analysis, resubmit.	60 days
4.	Review continues for projects that passed initially. Resubmitted projects reviewed; if pass move on, if not, sent back for future submittal.	15 days
5.	Proposers notified of total points received and ranking for funding.	5 days
6.	WAG includes highest-ranking projects in next Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP)	45 days
7.	Flood Control District review WQIPs	60 days
8.	Oversight Board reviews WQIPs	45 days
9.	Board of Supervisors approves WQIPs	<??>
10.	Flood Control District disburses funds	<??>

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Part IV: Community Education Program Criteria

Program Goals

The purpose of the criteria described in this document is to provide guidance for selecting the programs best suited to achieve the water quality priorities and targets identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plans (WQIPs) developed by the Watershed Authority Groups (WAGs) for each watershed and/or those identified in water quality improvement plans developed by municipalities.

This narrative provides information about the criteria for the purpose of reducing subjectivity when applied to specific proposed projects. The criteria used to score infrastructure projects are described below and should be used in conjunction with the scoring sheet that follows. The primary criteria are divided into seven categories (A through G), with the criteria in category "A" being mandatory. Within each category there are several sub-criteria that will help to determine the overall ranking of each proposed project. Points will be awarded in categories B through G on a sliding scale of 0 to 7 points each, for a maximum possible total of 42 points.

Score Range

0 Points: Information is lacking/missing, poorly described/written
1-2 Points: Minimal information/description; many questions remain
3-4 Points: Enough information included to describe the concept, but a few questions remain
5-6 Points: All information provided, well described
7 Points: All information provided, well described, well written, includes supporting information

A. Application Contents (check for completion only; pass/fail)

A1. The application contains all of the appropriate documents, sections and signatures

A2. The program adheres to all the Water Quality Improvement Program Guidelines described in Part II of this document

B. Program Analysis (0-7 points)

B1. The need for the program is clearly established

B2. The target audience is clearly identified

B3. The program is relevant to the audience

B4. The proposal describes how many people will be reached and the number of individual impressions

B5. The proposal demonstrates how the program will influence changes in behavior

C. Program Design (0-7 points)

C1. The overall purpose and goal(s) of the program are clearly defined

C2. There are written behavior change goals and measurable objectives consistent with WQIPs.

C3. The objectives and reasonable and appropriate in scope and number

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C4. There is an overarching message/theme/big idea identified for the program

D. Program Development (0-7 points)

D1. The program well defined and explained

D2. The materials and methods chosen to deliver the program are appropriate

D3. The content supports the goal(s)

D4. The needed resources are described and included (budget, staffing, time)

D.5 The program has been successfully undertaken previously elsewhere and the proposal describes the proven results

E. Program Implementation (0-7 points)

E1. The program's implementation and delivery are feasible and well explained

E2. The implementation plan includes any necessary staff training, addresses any safety issues, and provides for contingency issues (weather, failure of equipment, etc.)

E3. The program leverages other private, local, State, and Federal funds or in-kind services

F. Significance/Value (0-7 points)

F1. The program is of significant value to water quality education

F2. The program advances the field of water quality education

F3. The program is compatible with school-based standards and existing curricula (the program reinforces and/or complements what is being taught in local schools)

F4. The program encourages or creates partnerships between schools and the proposed program

F5. The implementation plan describes how other organization can replicate/adapt or build on this program

F6. The program will have a significant impact, shown in the numbers of people reached and/or the number of individual impressions

G. Program Evaluation (0-7 points)

G1. There is an evaluation plan that includes front-end, formative, summative and remedial evaluation.

G2. The evaluation methods are appropriate

G3. The evaluation methods are fully explained and/or materials are included

G4. The implementation plan describes how adjustments will be made to the program based on evaluation results if available, or includes considerations for potential adjustments

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Education Program Scoring Criteria Framework

Component	Score Range	Score
A. Application Contents	Mandatory Pass/Fail	
B. Program Analysis	0-7	
C. Program Design	0-7	
D. Program Development	0-7	
E. Program Implementation	0-7	
F. Significance/Value	0-7	
G. Program Evaluation	0-7	
TOTAL SCORE		

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APPENDIX II

Clean Water, Clean Beaches Program

Outline of Rebate and Appeals Process

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Clean Water, Clean Beaches Program
Outline of Rebate and Appeals Process

Basis for Appeal	Review Process	Result
Incorrect Land Use Code	Appeals based on these grounds must be reviewed and approved by the Los Angeles County Assessor's office	County Assessor revises record and District recalculates fee
Incorrect Owner or Change in Ownership		
Subdivision or Merger of Parcels		
Incorrect Lot Size	District corrects error	Recalculation of Fee
Mathematical Error		
Contiguous Parcels with Common Ownership and Land Use	District reviews parcels to ensure common land use. Fee calculated as if one larger parcel to more accurately represents actual runoff generation.	Recalculation of Fee
Applied Impervious Area Deviates More Than 10% From Actual Impervious Area	District reviews parcel and assigns new impervious percentage. Error calculated using below formula: $\frac{A_C - A_a}{A_a} > 10\%$ Where: A_C = Calculated Impervious Area; A_a = Actual Impervious Area	Recalculation of Fee
Implementation of On-Site Best Management Practices (BMPs)*	District to review BMPs and calculate fee reduction based on below formula: $\text{Fee Reduction} = \frac{Vol_{BMP}}{SWQDV} \times R_{max} \times \text{Annual Fee}$ Where: R_{MAX} = 0.80 for on-site capture, 0.65 for approved on-site filtration; Vol_{BMP} = Volume of runoff managed on-site; $SWQDV$ = Volume of runoff generated on parcel by 85th percentile or 3/4"-24hour storm, whichever is greater	Reduction of Fee up to 80 percent

* Fee Reduction amounts will be proportional to the percent of the Stormwater Quality Design Volume (SWQDV) managed on-site. The SWQDV represents the runoff generated on the parcel by a 0.75 inch, 24-hour storm event or the 85th percentile storm, whichever is greater. To calculate the parcel's SWQDV, applicants must use an approved hydrologic analysis tool consistent with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Hydrology Manual. BMPs that capture and retain runoff on-site will be eligible for fee reductions up to 80 percent, and filtration BMPs will be eligible for fee reductions up to 65 percent.

REPORT ON A STABLE AND LONG-TERM SURFACE WATER QUALITY FUNDING MECHANISM

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REPORT ON A STABLE AND LONG-TERM SURFACE WATER QUALITY FUNDING MECHANISM

1. Executive Summary

At the September 13, 2005, Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board unanimously approved a Motion instructing the Chief Administrative Office, with assistance from Public Works, County Counsel, and other appropriate departments, to provide recommendations on implementing a stable and long-term funding mechanism to finance the cost to construct, maintain, and operate projects that address water quality and provide other benefits. This supplements the preliminary report to the Board from the CAO dated October 13, 2005.

Following are key points covered in this report:

- The funding mechanism must be supported by a clear and simple plan that describes goals, strategies, projects, land acquisition, project schedule, description of the stable and long-term funding mechanism, the need for the additional revenue, the amount of revenue anticipated, how the revenue is to be used, discussion of other funding options, and most important, the water quality and other benefits that communities can anticipate if the funding mechanism is approved and the plan is implemented.

  The technical basis for this plan will be the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) being developed through the Proposition 50, Chapter 8 planning process. The current schedule is to have the IRWMP adopted by January 1, 2007.

- The Los Angeles Regional Watershed Infrastructure Funding Workgroup, chaired by the American Society of Civil Engineers, is an unprecedented collaboration of governmental agencies, environmental organizations, and many stakeholders, working to cooperatively address water-quality issues in the County. This group is conducting research, educating, and is working to prepare the necessary plans to support a funding measure for the County.

  This group can be of great benefit to the Board of Supervisors by acting as an independent and neutral organization since it is made up of community leaders, which represent a broad cross section of the local community. The group can review reports and recommendations prepared by government agencies and provide unbiased, credible, and neutral information to the Board for their consideration of a ballot measure. Recommendations or input from this body will lend increased credibility to any recommendations of County departments and the Board.

- A preliminary assessment of funding options indicates that property taxes (to pay for the debt service costs on bonds) coupled with parcel taxes (for operation and maintenance), benefit assessments and service fees meet the criteria of a stable and long-term funding mechanism to finance the construction, operations and

maintenance of projects. The preliminary report, "Evaluation of Watershed Management Funding Options For Los Angeles County," Exhibit 3, provides details of these and other options. This report is currently being reviewed by the Chief Administrative Office, Public Works, the Infrastructure Funding Workgroup, and other organizations. Your comments are welcome.

2. Introduction

This report supplements the Chief Administrative Office's report dated October 13, 2005, in response to the September 13, 2005, Board Motion requesting that the Chief Administrative Office, with assistance from the Director of Public Works, County Counsel and other appropriate County departments, develop recommendations on how best to implement a stable and long-term regional funding mechanism to finance the construction, operations, and maintenance of projects that address water quality and provide other multiple benefits. The Motion also requests that a list of projects be established to implement in all parts of the County along with the costs and timing of any necessary funding measure. Exhibit 1 is a copy of the Motion.

This report is for discussion purposes and no direct recommendations are made at this time. Future reports will provide specific recommendations for consideration and additional details on tasks and activities.

3. Background

The cost to meet the emerging and stringent stormwater and urban water runoff regulations continues to increase. Developing and constructing projects to meet these regulations are anticipated to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars per year. Additionally, there is an ever increasing demand to no longer develop single purpose projects but projects that provide other tangible community benefits such as wildlife and riparian habitat restoration, flood protection, water supply, recreation, open space, and wastewater management.

Meeting these objective may require solutions that are not traditional in our highly urbanized population centers. Over the next 10 – 20 years it may be necessary to use existing publicly owned open space and acquire currently developed (and underutilized) lands adjacent to the rivers and creeks for projects which retain, treat, and recharge stormwater runoff. Additionally, opportunities should be sought to design projects to achieve multiple objectives described above as well as opportunities to make them eligible for Federal funding (up to 65 percent) if they are consistent with the mission of the US Army Corps of Engineers to provide flood control and habitat restoration and with State grant funding that provides incentives for multipurpose solutions.

Financing these projects requires a stable and long-term revenue stream that is available from year-to-year and that can pay for construction of projects as well as for their operations and maintenance once constructed. Additionally, since compliance with regulations will be over a period of 10 - 20 or more years, the revenue stream needs to be available for that period of time. Therefore, a stable and long-term funding mechanism to finance water-quality projects that also provide other benefits is a critical priority for the County, the cities in the County, water and sanitation agencies, and other organizations that have an interest in improving the quality of the environment for residents in the County.

To address the issue of a long-term stable funding mechanism, the American Society of Civil Engineers formed and facilitates the Los Angeles Regional Watershed Infrastructure Funding Workgroup (Workgroup). The Workgroup is made of government and private organizations, environmental groups, and individuals working cooperatively to provide the information necessary to support a voter-approved stable and long-term funding mechanism. The Workgroup consists of a Leadership Roundtable and the Funding, Plan Development, and the Education and Outreach Committees.

The Workgroup's effort includes supporting the development of an IRWMP for the greater Los Angeles County region. This plan is proposed as the technical document that will describe the projects, programs and their benefits to support the funding mechanism.

Along with the development of the IRWMP, it is proposed that the Workgroup prepare a report to describe the tangible benefits that communities, public agencies, and other organizations in the County would receive by implementing the projects and programs, such that voters understand the return on the investment expected as a result of approving the funding measure. Most important, this report will propose a stable and long-term funding mechanism to finance, in whole or in part, the projects and programs.

The report would detail the amount of revenue anticipated from the funding mechanism and why the revenue is necessary. It would also detail a formula for disbursing the revenue to cities, the unincorporated County, directly and on a competitive basis to projects/programs, and to the County Flood Control District. The report will describe how the revenue would be used to leverage State and Federal funds to provide additional assistance to finance the cost of projects and programs. Specifically, the funds would be used as match on grants from future State bond measures and Federal funding partners. Also, this report, along with its supporting technical document, the IRWMP, will be used to seek direct funding for projects from State and Federal sources. For the purposes of this document, this report will be known as the "Benefits Report."

4. Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

Proposition 50, the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 was passed by the California voters in November 2002. Chapter 8 of Proposition 50 provides $500 million in grants for development of Integrated Regional Water Management plans and implementing projects.

The intent of the Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program is to encourage integrated regional strategies for management of water resources and to provide funding, through competitive grants, to develop integrated water management plans and implement projects that protect communities from drought, protect and improve water quality, and improve local water security by reducing dependence on imported water.

The following provides an overview of Countywide efforts related to the Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program. Exhibit 2 is a detailed status report on the IRWMP effort.

a. Grant Applications

The City of Los Angeles, the West Basin Municipal Water District, the Watershed Conservation Authority, the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Authority, the City of Downey, and the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, as the lead agencies for six planning regions in the County, submitted draft IRWMPs and proposals for Proposition 50, Chapter 8 planning grants to the State Department of Water Resources and the Water Quality Control Board.

The Watershed Conservation Authority is a joint powers authority between the County Flood Control District and the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. The Conservancy was created by the California legislature in 1999 and it is one of eight conservancies in the California Resources Agency. Their mission is to preserve open space and habitat in order to provide for low-impact recreation and educational uses, wildlife habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvements within our jurisdiction.

b. Grant Awards

Initially only the Watershed Conservation Authority's proposal was eligible for a grant award. However, after extensive campaigning by many organizations and individuals, the total planning grant amount available for all applicants in the State was increased from approximately $12 to $15 million allowing for the City of Los Angeles' and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Authority's proposals to also be eligible for a grant award.

As a result, the State Department of Water Resources proposes to award a $1.5 million planning grant to the three eligible regions with the condition that a

single IRWMP be prepared that covers the areas in the City of Los Angeles, the West Basin Municipal Water District, the Watershed Conservation Authority, and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Authority proposals. Additionally, the State asked that the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District be invited to participate in the development of the single IRWMP.

Proposition 50, Chapter 8 requires that IRWMPs be adopted by January 1, 2007, for projects to be eligible to receive implementation grants. A decision of which projects are eligible for implementation grants will be made in early 2006. The regions that have been combined to develop the single IRWMP are eligible to receive a maximum of $50 million in implementation grants. However, the State has indicated that realistically the amount of implementation grants that may be awarded would be in the range of $20 to $30 million maximum.

c. Development of the IRWMP

To develop the single IRWMP, five Subregional Steering Committees will be created to guide the planning effort within each region. The lead agencies for those regions are the City of Los Angeles, the West Basin Municipal Water District, the Watershed Conservation Authority, the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Authority, and the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster. Originally the San Gabriel River and Lower Los Angeles River Watersheds was a single region but it was recently divided into two regions to streamline the planning efforts in those watersheds.

A Leadership Committee will oversee the subregions to guide the overall development of the IRWMP.

One consultant firm with an appropriate team is to be awarded a contract to develop the IRWMP. The County Flood Control District will act as the Program Manager of the consultant firm with the Central and West Basin Municipal Water Districts acting as the contract administrator.

d. IRWMP Objectives

The IRWMP will be developed to meet the requirements of Chapter 8 and to address broad water quality and water supply needs of the four regions. The IRWMP will identify quantifiable regional objectives and a comprehensive set of water management projects/programs that are integrated across the greater Los Angeles County region and that integrate multiple water management strategies to meet those objectives. The proposed projects would then be leveraged to attract local, state (beyond Proposition 50) and Federal funding.

The IRWMP will also be used as the technical document in support for a voter-approved stable and long-term multibillion dollar funding measure to finance the construction and maintenance of projects that address water quality and provide other benefits.

5. Obtaining Support For a Stable and Long-term Surface Water Quality Funding Mechanism

Obtaining the public's support for a funding measure is a challenging, costly and lengthy process but, by following the steps of other successful measures across the country, the chances for approval of a measure by the voters in Los Angeles County can be highly increased.

Following is a description of those steps and tasks:

a. Development of the Benefits Report

Obtaining approval of a funding mechanism involves extensive amount of upfront work including developing of the Benefits Report to clearly and to the point substantiate the necessity for the additional revenue and to describe the tangible benefits that the public will receive. It is important that this report be as specific as possible to maximize support for the funding measure.

Development of the Benefits Report should be through an iterative process involving elected officials, constituents, environmental organizations, business leaders and business associations, and other stakeholders. The end result will be a report that has been built on input and consensus from the public, with obstacles and opposition issues that would prevent its approval having been addressed.

b. Thorough Assessment of Existing Operations

The public demands that government be accountable as to how they spend existing revenue. Therefore, it is important that prior to a measure for approval by the voters, governmental organizations document the efficiency of their existing operations, as well as demonstrate where improvements can be made and costs be reduced. The intent is to show the public that every effort has been exhausted utilizing existing revenue streams before requesting their support for a new funding measure to address water quality. Governmental agencies should perform the following:

- Document the set of capital improvement projects that have been completed with existing funding sources and how existing funding has or will be exhausted.
- Conduct an honest and open appraisal of current operations and practices.
- Evaluate how is the job done or not getting done.
- Evaluate the organizational structure and determine if changes could be made to make it more efficient and effective.
- Identify where costs can be cut.
- Evaluate if revenues are being used effectively and are being maximized.
- Identify other areas where efficiencies can be made.

The results of this assessment and the steps that will be taken to achieve results needs to be part of the Benefits Report. This would show the public that governmental agencies are serious about improving water quality through cost-effective efforts.

County departments are making initial progress integrating Results Based Budgeting as a means to show the public that results and efficiencies drive the County budgeting process. Beyond this process the Chief Administrative Office could work with all County departments to identify funds and mechanisms that can help meet water quality. Mechanisms could include specific ordinances to place conditions on development, having departments work together to integrate projects to meet water quality and provide other benefits, and using available resources to educate the public as to how they can make a difference in addressing water quality. It is important to note that improving water quality and complying with water-quality regulations is the responsibility of all County departments.

c. Public Education and Support

Voters will only approve measures for additional revenue when they believe the government is responding to their specific demands and is providing the public with solutions that provide tangible community benefits. Any effort to bring additional revenue will be unpopular and may not be approved by the voters without sufficient public and political support. Therefore, the key to success will be through educating the public and by obtaining their support.

People are more aware of the issues facing the environment. According to a survey published by the Public Policy Institute of California in November 2003, the vast majority of Californians say that the condition of the ocean and beaches is personally important to them. Also, over half of the residents believe that the quality of the ocean along the shoreline has deteriorated in the past two decades. In Los Angeles County, approximately 65 percent of the voters supported the most recent Statewide water and park bond measures, Propositions 40 and 50.

Therefore, it appears that there is some level of understanding of the issues but what may not be understood are the costs associated with improving the quality of water. However, it is important that approval from the voters should not be on the basis that jurisdictions need to comply with regulations and that there is not enough money to do the job. Obtaining approval should be through an educational process that the end result would be that the public understands the benefits of having cleaner water, that the economy and vitality of the environment depends on cleaner water, that the program to manage stormwater is vital and it is being provided at the lowest cost possible, and to obtain the results will be expensive but the cost of paying additional fees, assessments, or some other funding mechanism is relatively small in relation to the benefits to be received. In essence, that there is or will be a real crisis and that it is expensive to address the crisis.

Educating the public, stakeholders, and the opposition and garnering their support should be through an iterative process that includes the following:

- Impartial opinion surveys and focus groups

  This is necessary to understand the public's awareness of the issues, solutions, their biases, funding priorities, what they are willing to support (fee, assessment, etc.) and how much they are willing to spend.

  Results can be used to define and refine a funding measure, address priorities, and would help develop and implement future education and outreach efforts.

- One-on-one interviews

  These interviews would target specific stakeholders including elected officials, environmental organizations, community and homeowner groups, businesses, and special interest groups. The intent of the interviews would be to obtain more personal and unbiased opinions on funding measures, benefits, projects, etc. Along with the surveys, the interviews would provide more input that would allow for refinement of the Benefits Report before it is presented formally to the public.

- Public workshops

  The workshops would be used to introduce a more refined Benefits Report to the public and to encourage their input. The workshops would be provided throughout the County on several occasions to ensure maximum exposure and input.

- Task force/watershed forums

  The forums would gather community leaders and watershed stakeholders to discuss recommendations in the Benefits Report following input from the public workshops. The forums would be used to obtain more detailed input and to address specific issues by watershed.

- Public outreach

  The outreach would take place throughout the entire process and would be a continuous educational effort. This would include different types of media pieces and activities including brochures, newsletters, web sites, video presentations, public speaking presentations, public service announcements, press releases, newspaper articles, media packets, etc. It is important to note that this outreach is intended to educate the public as well as representatives of the news media such as reporters and editors of the effort to develop the

IRWMP, the Benefits Report and to obtain support for the efforts. An educated news media is less likely to print sensational negative articles on an effort that would be a benefit to the public.

- Elected officials

  Education and outreach on the benefits and costs of the proposed funding measure will be critical to develop support from the elected officials representing all 88 cities within the County, as well as Board members of other stakeholders including water districts, sanitation districts, etc. Outreach is recommended to occur in existing venues such as the Southern California Association of Governments and through Council of Governments.

At this time, Lewis & Company, a private consulting firm, is proposing to finance the cost of an initial focus group/survey. It is important that this work be coordinated with the Education and Outreach Committee of the Workgroup to make sure that the process is open to suggestions and that results be made available to Workgroup participants.

d. Election Day For A Ballot Measure

The best day to go to the ballot for a funding measure that requires approval by the general electorate is on a presidential general election since this is usually when there is the highest turnout of voters likely to approve a measure to improve the environment. The next presidential election is in November of 2008. However, funding mechanisms such as benefit assessments are submitted to voters through a mailed ballot and do not need to be tied to any election.

The timing of when voters are asked to approve a funding measure should consider that the IRWMP will not be completed until early 2007. Additionally, the Benefits Report will rely on the IRWMP and will probably not be completed for months after the IRWMP. As stated before, the Benefits Report is critical for presenting to the public the specific projects and programs and the benefits in support of a stable and long-term funding mechanism.

e. Consultant Support

Expert resources will need to be hired or organizations would need to provide in-kind services to develop reports and plans, provide education and outreach, and for developing and implementing strategies to address political issues.

Following is a general description of the resources and expertise that would be required:

- Resources to develop the IRWMP.
- Support for development of informational web sites, newsletters, and other media collaterals to educate the public as to the development of the IRWMP and the Benefits Report and the benefits to be derived from their implementation.
- Expertise is needed to develop a single clear message that would resonate with the public. The message would need to be compelling and consistent in getting the message across that the effort is about addressing stormwater quality and providing other benefits and not about raising fees, assessments or other revenue generating scheme.
- Public opinion survey services.
- Resources to provide technical and administrative support for the Workgroup.
- Financial expertise to develop an equitable formula and governance structure to allocate funds from a stable and long-term funding mechanism to projects and eligible organizations.
- Preparation of an Engineer's Report if a benefit assessment is the proposed funding measure.
- Political strategist to provide strategic and political direction during the development of the plans, media collaterals, and presentations to stakeholders, elected officials, and other interested parties.

At this time, the consulting firm of Brown & Caldwell is providing technical and administrative support services to the Workgroup through a contract with the City of Long Beach. Agencies have made commitments to paying for the cost of this support.

f. Budget

A comprehensive budget is necessary so that there is a clear understanding of the costs associated with the effort leading up to a ballot measure. The budget would also be used to identify which organizations and private entities can and should provide financial assistance for this effort. The budget is currently being developed by members of the Workgroup and the organizations developing the IRWMP.

g. Approval from the Board of Supervisors and Other Elected Officials

Approval from the Board to proceed with an effort that could lead to a ballot measure is a critical first step to getting support from other elected officials, stakeholders and the public.

To place a measure on a ballot would require educational and outreach efforts to elected officials to ensure that there is an understanding that there are real needs, that there is or will be a crisis, and that additional revenue is needed to address the

crisis. Additionally, elected officials will need to understand that the ballot measure will face many challenges, the process will be expensive and time consuming, and that most ballot measures fail the first time around.

The Board's September 13, 2005, unanimously approved motion has provided tremendous momentum for the funding measure effort and for development of the plans and reports that are necessary for its success.

At this time, the Workgroup is developing strategies to expand its current education and outreach efforts to all cities in the County. This could include initial presentations to Council of Governments and then individual presentations or workshops with officials as necessary. Additionally, elected officials and their staff would be encouraged to participate in activities of the Workgroup. This effort would also be used to generate financial or other resource support for the Workgroup.

h. Champion for the Cause and Political Action Committee(s)

A champion or champions for the cause will be one of the most critical persons necessary to deliver the message to the public and for garnering support for a ballot measure. For success the champion should have the following qualifications:

- A recognizable household name.
- Should not have a political interest.
- Should come from the private sector so that elected officials are not taking the lead on raising fees, assessments, etc. Additionally, coming from the private sector would add credibility by being able to deliver a taxpayer-to-taxpayer message.
- Be able to make the necessary time commitment to the campaign.

Along with a champion, one or more political action committees would be necessary to carry out and manage a campaign to advocate support for the ballot measure and to raise funds for the campaign. The campaign may include press releases, news conferences, television and radio advertisement, articles in periodicals, newsletters and web sites. This would be a costly but necessary endeavor to have a successful ballot measure. It is important that environmental organizations, nongovernmental entities and private businesses be encouraged to participate in this effort to add credibility to the process.

The Workgroup will be developing strategies to recommend a champion and an organization that can accept the responsibility for forming one or more political action committee that would be advocating a position for the funding measure. The political action committee(s) would develop their own strategies to raise funds and to provide support for the measure.

i. Summary of Steps and Tasks

The following table provides a summary, a checklist, of the above described steps and tasks that if properly carried out could lead to a successful ballot measure:

Steps and Tasks for Success:	
Conduct public opinion surveys.	✓
Conduct agency self-assessment and implementation of cost reduction measures.	✓
Identify multi purpose projects that meet the needs, goals and provide tangible benefits.	✓
Develop a clear and simple technical plan/study that includes the issues, projects, programs, cost, funding, etc.	✓
Involve stakeholders (politicians, businesses, environmental organizations, community leaders, etc.) in the review and development of the technical plan/study.	✓
Develop and carry out a public education campaign on the issues, solutions and benefits.	✓
Develop and carry out a strong media campaign that includes support coalitions and one or more champions for the cause.	✓
Obtain approval from elected officials.	✓
Implement plan, project and funding oversight committees.	✓
Identify and hire the necessary experts to provide assistance in carrying out the tasks.	✓
Identify non-governmental organizations to raise funds for campaigning and to support the initiative.	✓
Place the measure in a presidential election.	✓

6. Stable and Long-term Surface Water Quality Funding Mechanisms A Preliminary Analysis

The Funding Committee of the Workgroup, which is chaired by the City of Los Angeles, is responsible for preparing a report that would evaluate various funding options. Exhibit 3, "Evaluation of Watershed Management Funding Options For Los Angeles County," is the first draft of this report.

The intent of this report is to evaluate options that would meet the criteria for a stable and long-term funding mechanism that would finance the construction of projects and their operations and maintenance once constructed. The report does not specifically recommend one option but instead identifies what options meet the criteria and their advantages and disadvantages.

At this time, the report is being reviewed by the Workgroup, the Chief Administrative Office, the Department of Public Works and other interested parties. Comments would be appreciated to expand and/or modify options presented in the report so that a comprehensive study of options would ultimately be available.

7. Multi-Purpose Projects

Organizations that participate in the Workgroup acknowledge that one of the primary reasons they have come together and remained focused is their understanding that they have no existing revenue sources to address emerging water-quality regulations, specifically, compliance with Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) regulations. A TMDL specifies the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water-quality standards. They also acknowledge that projects that just address water quality could result in missing opportunities to provide other benefits, would be an inefficient use of resources, may significantly increase the local funding needed because State and Federal funding will not be attracted, and would most likely not be supported by the many stakeholders that would need to support a ballot measure. Instead, multi-purpose projects will be identified through the IRWMP that in whole or in parts provide water-quality benefits and reduce pollutant loads to the impaired waters of Los Angeles County to meet water-quality standards and that would also provide other tangible community benefits such as wildlife and riparian habitat restoration, water supply, flood control, recreation, open space, wastewater management, and wildlife habitat restoration.

The Sun Valley Watershed Plan presents probably the most notable example of multi-purpose projects. Exhibit 4 provides an overview of the plan and projects.

8. Los Angeles Regional Watershed Infrastructure Funding Workgroup

Current and future activities and strategies of the Workgroup are mentioned in this report. The Workgroup has taken on the task of researching, educating, and bringing organizations and individuals together to work cooperatively to address water-quality issues, is working with the planning regions to develop the IRWMP, and continues to develop strategies that could ultimately result in a successful ballot measure. The mission statement of the Workgroup clearly describes the purpose for its existence:

"The mission of the workgroup is to work cooperatively to complete an integrated long-term regional watershed management plan for Los Angeles County by 2007 and develop the information needed to support a voter-approved funding mechanism by 2008 to implement the plan."

The Workgroup can be of great benefit to the Board of Supervisors by acting as an independent and neutral organization since it is made up of community leaders which represent a broad cross section of the local community. It can review reports and recommendations prepared by government agencies and provide unbiased and neutral information and credibility to the Board for their consideration of a ballot measure. Recommendations or input from this body will lend increased credibility to any recommendations of the County departments and the Board.

Organizations and individuals have praised the Workgroup for the level of collaboration that has taken place so far, for the open and honest discussions and recommendations among the participants and for the level of commitment shown by the participants. Exhibit 5 is a list of the persons and organizations that attended the September 22, 2005, meeting of the Workgroup.

EXHIBIT 1

Board of Supervisors Motion
September 13, 2005

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer

At its meeting held September 13, 2005, the Board took the following action:

2

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

"Stormwater and urban water runoff drain into the flood control system, waterways, and ultimately into the ocean with virtually no treatment. The runoff deposits trash, bacteria, and other pollutants into these waters negatively impacting the economy of our communities and the vitality of Los Angeles County's environment. The County, the City of Los Angeles, and other cities within the County are seeking to construct local and regional watershed management projects that can remove pollutants from runoff and also provide other benefits such as water reuse and storage, recreation opportunities, flood control, open space and habitat restoration which are essential to ensure a healthy environment for our residents. Such projects are also necessary to address the Countywide mandates of the Federal Clean Water Act's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES) and Total Maximum Daily Load limits.

"Current funding is extremely limited. A stable and long-term Countywide funding mechanism needs to be established to construct, maintain and operate local and regional watershed management projects.

"As a leader in integrated watershed management for the region and as the Principal Permittee for the County NPDES permit the County should lead the region in a Countywide initiative to identify projects that would provide tangible water quality and multiple use benefits, and to enact the most appropriate funding mechanism."

(Continued on Page 2)

2 (Continued)

Mark Pestrella, Assistant Deputy Director, Watershed Management Division, Department of Public Works, responded to questions posed by the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, and by common consent, there being no objection, the Chief Administrative Officer, with assistance from the Director of Public Works, County Counsel and other appropriate County departments, was instructed to report to the Board within 30 days with recommendations on how best to implement a stable and long-term regional funding mechanism that would finance the construction, operation and maintenance of local and regional projects that address water quality and provide other multiple benefits, with consideration to be given to the issuance of bonds, the establishment of assessment districts or increases in current assessments, and the potential for enacting State legislation to accomplish the foregoing, as well as to the establishment of lists of projects to be completed in all parts of the County and to the costs and timing of any necessary ballot measure.

06091305_2

Copies distributed:
Each Supervisor
County Counsel
Director of Public Works

EXHIBIT 2

Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

EXHIBIT 2

INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Proposition 50

The Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50) provides a total of $3.4 billion in bond funds. The grant money is divided among seven different chapters including: Water Security (Chapter 3), Safe Drinking Water (Chapter 4), Clean Water and Water Quality (Chapter 5), Contaminant and Salt Removal Technologies (Chapter 6), CALFED Bay Delta Program (Chapter 7), Integrated Regional Water Management (Chapter 8), Colorado River (Chapter 9), and Coastal Watershed and Wetland Protection (Chapter 10).

Guidelines and criteria for each grant chapter are established separately or jointly by the Department of Water Resources (DWR), Department of Health Services (DHS), and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). These agencies also evaluate grant proposals and award grants to qualifying applicants.

Chapter 8

The intent of the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grant Program is to encourage integrated regional strategies for management of water resources and to provide funding, through competitive grants, to develop integrated water management plans and implement projects that protect communities from drought, protect and improve water quality, and improve local water security by reducing dependence on imported water. The IRWM Grant Program is administered jointly by DWR and SWRCB and is intended to promote a new model for water management. A total of $500 million is available under Chapter 8 for IRWM plans and projects.

Grant Applications

The City of Los Angeles, the West Basin Municipal Water District, the Watershed Conservation Authority, and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Authority are the lead agencies for the four major planning regions in the County. These organizations, along with the County Department of Public Works/Flood Control District, and hundreds of other stakeholders worked cooperatively to develop four draft IRWMPs and planning grant applications in accordance with the requirements of Proposition 50 Chapter 8. The four plans cover the majority of the Los Angeles basin except for a portion of the Santa Clara River Watershed within Los Angeles County that may or may not be included in Ventura County's planning effort. A draft IRWMP and planning and implementation grant applications were not developed for the Antelope Valley. Exhibit A is a map of the planning regions.

The City of Downey and the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District also applied for Proposition 50 Chapter 8 planning grants. The planning areas of these applications were much smaller than those of the four major IRWMPs areas.

Grant Awards

Initially there was $12 million available in planning grants for the entire State. Based on the initial grant recommendations only the Watershed Conservation Authority would have received a planning grant.

The initial recommendations showed tremendous inequity between Northern and Southern California (75 percent versus 25 percent) in total dollars recommended for award. Such a funding discrepancy contrasted with four important points:

(1) Language in the relevant Water Code section that identifies not less than 40 percent of the funds available through the Integrated Regional Water Management program be provided to Southern California;

(2) The population difference and water supply needs between Northern and Southern California;

(3) The substantial population of Southern California and, in particular, the population density of urban Los Angeles County creates a tremendous need for integrated water management planning;

(4) The voters of Los Angeles County who voted 65 percent in favor of Proposition 50, which was instrumental in its passage.

Additionally, the development and adoption of IRWMPs is a requirement for qualifying and, potentially, receiving grant funding to implement projects. The three major planning regions not recommended for planning grants may have not gone forward with their planning efforts without the financial support to prepare the IRWMPs. As a result, many projects with potentially great benefit to the State and to the integrated water management program may have not had a chance to be developed.

Most importantly, the four major regions recognized that this planning effort is necessary to provide the technical basis for a voter-approved stable and long-term multibillion dollar funding measure for Los Angeles County to finance projects that address water quality and provide other benefits. Projects described in the IRWMPs would be implemented with approval of such a funding measure. This effort is in line with the September 13, 2005, Board motion requesting the Chief Administrative Office along with Public Works, to identify how best to implement such a measure as well as the establishment of lists of projects to be completed in all part of the County.

After a tremendous campaign effort by many organizations and individuals using the points stated above, the State increased the amount of planning grant dollars by approximately $3 million. This resulted in three of the four major regional water management areas being awarded grants to develop IRWMPs. The total grant award

for the three regions is $1.5 million. DWR will award this grant with the condition that the four major regions work jointly to develop one IRWMP for the Los Angeles basin region instead of four individual plans. Additionally, the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District would be invited to participate in the development of the single IRWMP.

Proposition 50, Chapter 8 requires that the IRWMP be adopted by January 1, 2007, for projects to be eligible to receive implementation grants. A decision of which projects are eligible for implementation grants will be made in early 2006. The four combined regions are eligible to receive a maximum of $50 million in implementation grants. However, the State has indicated that realistically the amount of implementation grants that may be awarded would be in the range of $20 to $30 million maximum.

Development of the IRWMP

Proposition 50 Chapter 8 requires that IRWMPs be adopted by January 1, 2007, in order for eligible projects to receive implementation grants. Because of the tremendous effort necessary to prepare a single IRWMP for the Los Angeles basin in such a short time frame, the Central and West Basin Municipal Water Districts volunteered to issue a Request for Proposals and enter into a contract with the most qualified consultant team to prepare the IRWMP. The Districts' process allows the award of a contract in mid December 2005 instead of February or March 2006 for other agencies.

Initially the single IRWMP would integrate the water management needs of the four major regions. However, to streamline the planning efforts, the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles River Watersheds was recently divided into two planning regions. The five planning regions will now be considered "sub-regions" and collectively the Los Angeles County Region (LACR). Although a single plan will be developed, it must focus on each sub-region's unique characteristics, address Chapter 8's requirements and highlight the region's statewide significance. At this time, the agencies leading the planning efforts in each sub-region is as follows:

Sub-region	Lead Agency
North Santa Monica Bay Watershed	Santa Monica Bay Restoration Authority
Upper Los Angeles River Watershed	City of Los Angeles
South Bay Watershed	West Basin Municipal Water District
San Gabriel River Watershed	Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster
Lower Los Angeles River Watershed	Watershed Conservation Authority

To date, a substantial amount of research, planning, and project development and prioritization has taken place in the LACR and continues to the extent possible as facilitated by the stakeholders in each sub-region. However, many of these activities have not been integrated either across the LACR or have addressed multiple water management strategies. Building upon this work, the agencies and stakeholders in the LACR will prepare an IRWMP with the understanding that through regional integration, more cost effective and broader-reaching water management solutions can be developed and implemented.

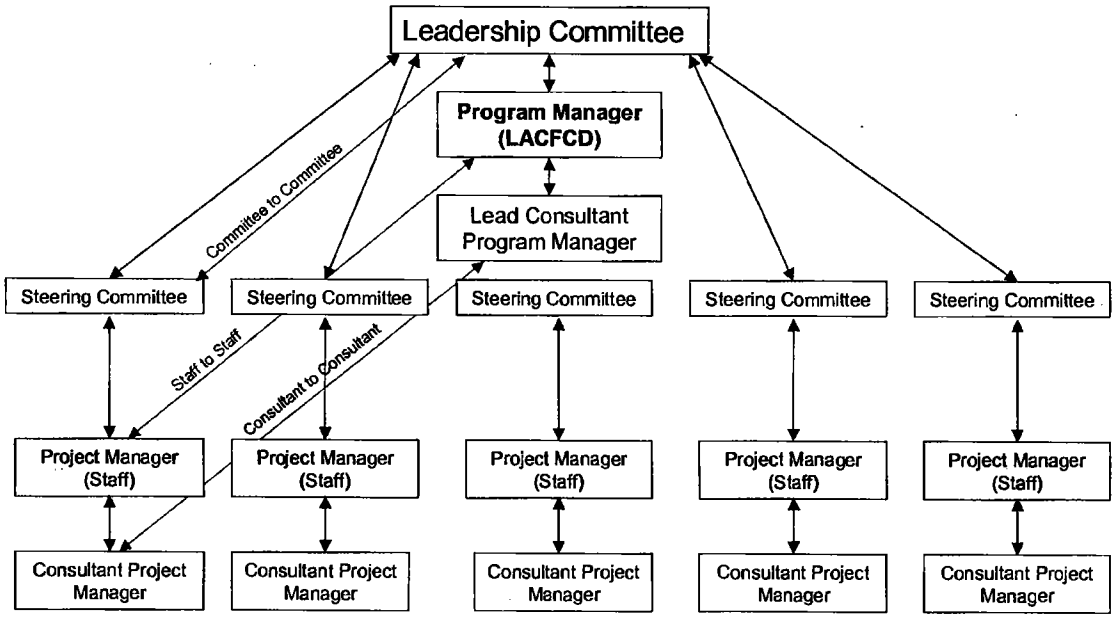
Program and Project Management

Within the LACR, there currently is or will be a Sub-regional Steering Committee established for each sub-region tasked with being the decision-making body for its respective watershed(s). Each Steering Committee consists of representatives from various participating agencies and organizations who would, in turn, appoint representatives to a regional Leadership Committee tasked with making decisions for the entire LACR. The Sub-regional Steering Committee will include Water Management Focus Groups (sub-committees) formed around water management focus areas and will be comprised of stakeholders who will assist with technical input and the integration of water management strategies during the development of the IRWMP.

The County Flood Control District will serve as the overall Program Manager for the development of the IRWMP overseeing the integration of the sub-regional efforts led by their respective Project Managers. The Central and West Basin Municipal Water Districts will serve as the contract administrator and fiscal agent for the consultant contract.

The following diagram shows the management and communication relationship between the committees and project managers.

Management and Communication Model



Each Steering Committee will assign a Project Manager to direct the consultant's Project Manager

IRWMP Objectives

The single IRWMP will be developed to meet at a minimum the requirements of Chapter 8 and to also address broad water quality and water supply needs. In general, the objectives for the IRWMP are:

- Develop quantifiable regional objectives based on steering committee and stakeholder input for water quality, water supply, recreation, flood control, etc.
- Develop a comprehensive set of water management projects/programs which are integrated both across the LACR and integrate multiple water management strategies, meet quantifiable regional objectives, and that can be leveraged to attract local, state and federal funding.
- Develop a comprehensive set of water management projects/programs which are integrated both across the LACR and integrate multiple water management strategies that specifically address gaps in meeting quantifiable regional objectives.
- Develop a benefit-cost analyses methodology to evaluate each project/program for their effectiveness in achieving the quantifiable regional objectives.
- Identify new stakeholders in the LACR that can contribute to the development of the IRWMP and for further involvement in regional activities.
- Reach out to include disadvantaged communities in the process, identifying opportunities for projects to provide benefits.
- Maximize funding opportunities through Proposition 50, Chapter 8 and other potential funding sources in a manner that is cost-effective to the LACR's stakeholders.

IRWMP Contract Schedule

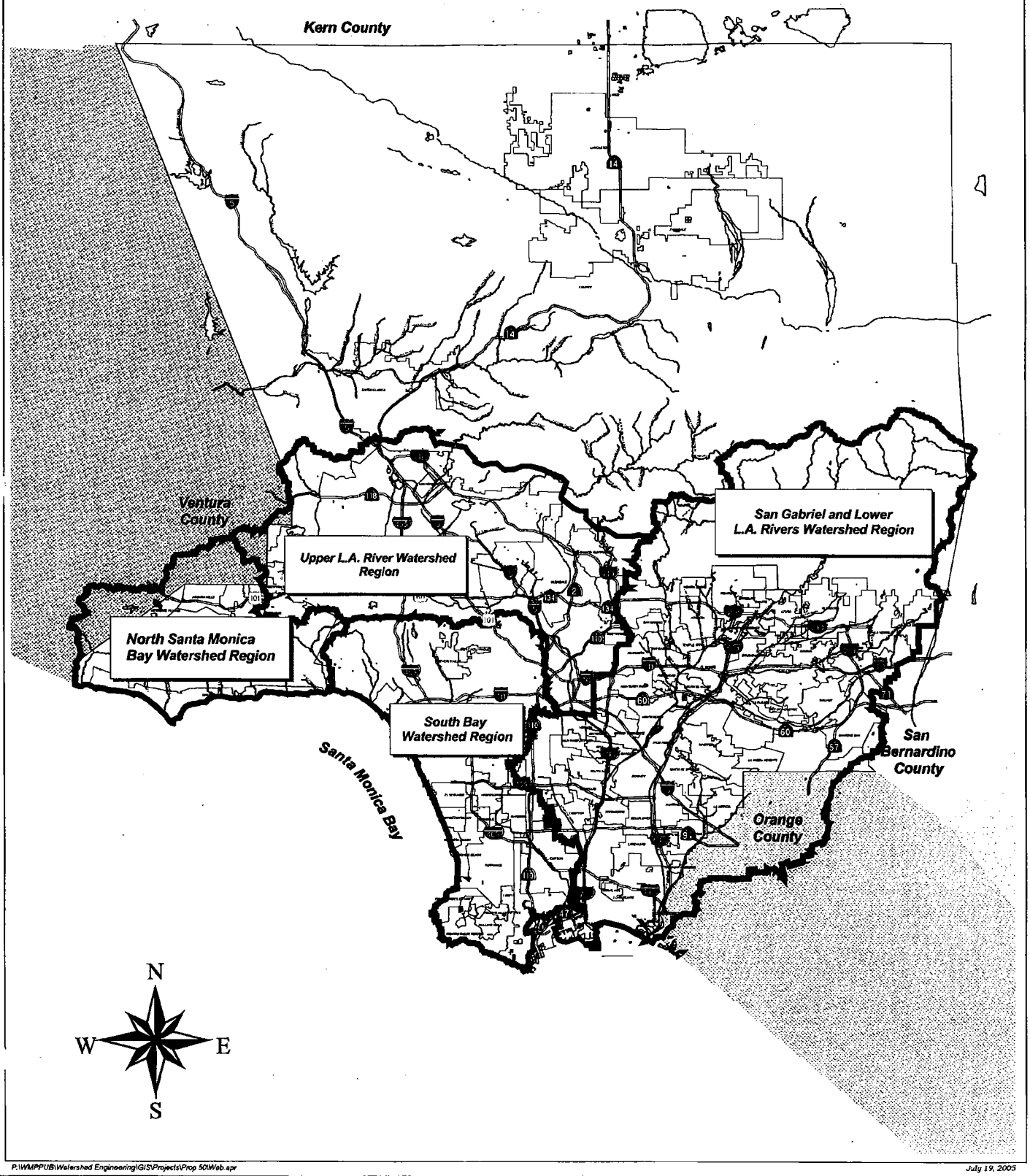
The schedule for consultants to develop proposals and for the award of a contract is:

- November 18, 2005 -- Deadline for submission of Proposals
- November 23, 2005 -- Consultant Interviews
- November 30, 2005 -- Contract negotiations
- December 19, 2005 -- West and Central Basin Municipal Water Districts' Board Meeting for contract approval

EXHIBIT A

Map of the Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Regions

Los Angeles County
Integrated Regional Water Management



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July 19, 2005

EXHIBIT 3

Evaluation of Watershed Management Funding Options

EXHIBIT 3

LOS ANGELES COUNTY WATERSHED FUNDING WORKGROUP

EVALUATION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT FUNDING OPTIONS FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY

September 22, 2005

Prepared by

City of Los Angeles
Bureau of Sanitation

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY WATERSHED FUNDING WORKGROUP

EVALUATION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT FUNDING OPTIONS FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY

September 22, 2005

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report was prepared by the Funding Subcommittee of the Los Angeles County Watershed Funding Workgroup (comprised of representatives from various cities, the County Public Works Department, environmental and industry groups and other stakeholders within Los Angeles County) and is intended to evaluate sources of funding for watershed management needs on a Countywide basis. The report expands upon the "Stormwater Quality Needs Funding Options and Implementation Tasks" report prepared in 2003 by the County Department of Public Works. Below are the most important of the funding sources considered in this report:

Property Tax. This tax is based on the assessed valuation of property multiplied by an annual tax rate and could be used to fund debt service on capital projects.
Parcel Tax. This is a tax on property that is not based on assessed valuation. It is often levied as a flat amount per parcel. Parcel tax receipts could be used to fund operations and maintenance.
Special Purpose Local Sales Tax. This is a tax imposed on the purchase of tangible goods and could be used to fund both capital and operations and maintenance.
Surcharge on Vehicle License Registration. This would be added to vehicle license and registration fees and could be used to fund both capital and operations and maintenance. Special legislation would be required before such a fee could be imposed.
Gasoline Tax Surcharge. This is an excise tax levied on each gallon of fuel sold and could be used to fund both capital and operations and maintenance.
Benefit Assessment. This is a charge upon real property that could be used to fund both capital and operations costs, provided that the funds are used to provide a special benefit to the property and not a general benefit to the public.
Service Fee. This is charged to beneficiaries of the service. Property owners therefore pay in proportion to their contribution of runoff pollution. The fee could be used to fund both capital and operations and maintenance.
Grants. These are free awards from the state or federal governments to cover the costs of capital projects.

The County may wish to vary a watershed management fee, assessment or tax by watershed, in consideration of the varying costs of the projects in the different watersheds. It is proposed that a funding source be selected that would allow the County to reduce the amounts paid by residents in cities with their own funding sources, so that

the total payments are the same throughout the County or watershed. With all residents paying the same, there would be no need to distribute the funds in proportion to the cities' contribution of funds. The funds would be distributed to those projects with the greatest impact on pollution, regardless of location. The following criteria are used in evaluating the alternative funding sources:

- **Equity.** Do those who contribute pollution pay for watershed management in proportion to their contribution?
- **Administrative cost.** Is there an existing collection system in place, allowing reasonable additional administrative costs for collecting the revenue?
- **Availability of funds.** Will the funding sources providing sufficient funds for the program?
- **Implementation feasibility.** Will the funding sources fit well with the existing funding sources of the various cities? Can the funding sources be varied among watersheds in the County?
- **Stability of revenue.** Will the revenue stream be dependable?
- **Adoption requirements.** What are the voting requirements and legislation required to implement the funding sources?
- **Flexibility.** Can the sources fund the different types of capital and operations costs?

In the absence of cost data on the capital projects to be funded, the report examines six categories of likely projects and assigns possible sources of funding for both capital and operations and maintenance for each category. The report also examines possible funding sources for current watershed management activities of the County and cities. The report evaluates how well the funding sources provide a "nexus" between those who contribute to the runoff pollution problems and how much they pay to correct the problem. The advantages and disadvantages of the fund sources are evaluated in detail.

This report proposes that three of the funding sources be considered (summarized in Table ES.1 below) as promising for funding most of the cost of the watershed management program. They are property taxes for capital coupled with parcel taxes for O&M cost, benefit assessments and service fees. All three sources have relatively low administrative costs and can provide sufficient funds for the entire watershed management program.

Table ES.1
Comparison of the Three Best Funding Alternatives

Funding Source	Equity	Implementation Feasibility	Stability of Revenue	Adoption Requirements	Flexibility
Bonds and Property Tax for Capital, Parcel Tax for O&M	They make all people pay for runoff from public places and would be appropriate for funding the general benefits of multipurpose projects. Poor nexus between payment and runoff from	Parcel taxes cannot be varied to fit well with the existing funding sources of the cities to guarantee that all residents pay their fair share. Parcel taxes could not vary between	Property tax revenues could be reduced somewhat if falling property values force the County to lower assessed	Requires 2/3 vote.	Can cover all types of costs.

Funding Source	Equity	Implementation Feasibility	Stability of Revenue	Adoption Requirements	Flexibility
	private properties. These funding sources cannot be used to charge public property, churches and other tax-exempt properties.	watersheds.	valuations. Parcel tax revenues are stable.		
Benefit Assessment	Good nexus between payment and contribution to runoff from private property. Must assume that responsibility for runoff from streets is proportional to runoff from private property.	Can be varied to fit well with the existing funding sources of the cities to guarantee that all residents pay their fair share. Assessments could vary between watersheds.	Revenues are very stable.	Requires half of weighted vote of property owners. Large properties could threaten the vote.	Cannot cover the costs of general benefits.
Service Fee	Good nexus between payment and contribution to runoff from private property. Must assume that responsibility for runoff from streets is proportional to runoff from private property.	Can be varied to fit well with the existing funding sources of the cities to guarantee that all residents pay their fair share. The fees could vary between watersheds.	Revenues are very stable.	Requires either half of unweighted vote of property owners or 2/3 vote of the general electorate.	Cannot be used for general government services, but will likely cover more than assessments.

This paper does not recommend a single best funding source for watershed management. The advantages and disadvantages of the alternative sources are presented in this paper so that policy-makers can decide among them. The sources are not mutually exclusive. They can be combined, if desired, to cover different types of projects and costs. It is recommended that construction grants, MWD operating subsidies, Corps of Engineers participation, water sales revenues and participation by water utilities be pursued as they may be available.

SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

The Los Angeles County Watershed Funding Workgroup, a committee sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), is comprised of representatives of various cities, the County Public Works Department, environmental and industry groups and other stakeholders within Los Angeles County. The workgroup is working cooperatively to prepare a long-term regional watershed management master plan for Los Angeles County by 2007 and to develop the information needed by policy-makers to select a voter-approved funding mechanism to implement the master plan projects. The Workgroup's goal is for the voters to approve the funding mechanism by 2008. The Workgroup is comprised of the Funding, Steering, Outreach Education and Plan Development Subcommittees.

This paper was prepared by the Funding Subcommittee and is intended to evaluate several alternative sources of funding the County's watershed management needs, expanding upon the "Stormwater Quality Needs Funding Options and Implementation Tasks" report prepared in 2003 by the County Department of Public Works. This report presents a qualitative, not a quantitative, analysis of the possible funding options, because cost data will not be available until the end of 2006. The report considers funding watershed management efforts in the County, not the flood-control responsibility of the County Flood Control District or of the cities.

The cost to meet the evolving and stringent stormwater and urban water runoff regulations continues to increase. The costs to develop, construct, and maintain these projects are anticipated to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars per year. Also, there is a demand that the projects provide other benefits, such as flood protection, water supply, recreation, open space, wastewater management and wildlife habitat restoration. Therefore, identifying a stable and long-term revenue source to finance these multiple benefit projects and to help address regulations are a critical priority for the County, cities, state and federal governments, water and sanitation agencies and other organizations that have an interest in improving the quality of the environment for residents in the County.

Nationwide, several approaches to funding either are in use or contemplated, the most prominent of which are property-related fees and assessments. In California, the biggest obstacle to any funding method based on parcel ownership is getting voter approval. This approval is now required under Articles XIII C and D of the State Constitution, as a result of Proposition 218, which was approved by voters on November 5, 1996. This proposition imposed landowner approval procedures for assessments on real property and for fees imposed "incident of real property ownership." The proposition also placed restrictions on the use of taxes, assessments and fees, making a distinction between general taxes that are not covered by the Proposition, "general benefits" that cannot be assessed against real property and "special benefits" that can be assessed.

This report discusses the steps needed for the various funding sources to be adopted, such as legislation and voting, and issues that would affect public acceptance of the

funding sources, such as equity. However, it does not attempt to gauge the public's acceptance of the funding sources. Polling data will be needed to estimate the likelihood that each funding source would be accepted and adopted.

A number of possible funding sources for watershed management projects and activities are introduced and evaluated in this report. Section 2 describes the various sources of funding evaluated in the report. Section 3 discusses technical and administrative considerations in the implementation of the funding sources, as well as the criteria used to evaluate the funding options. Section 4 groups the anticipated projects into broad categories and then evaluates their possible funding sources from the perspective of equity. Section 5 summarizes existing watershed maintenance operation and maintenance (O&M) activities, which costs may have to be incorporated into any future funding mechanism. Section 6 develops the advantages and disadvantages of the various funding sources. Section 7 summarizes the proposed choices of possible funding sources.

SECTION 2. DESCRIPTION OF FUNDING SOURCES

Following are descriptions of the funding sources that are evaluated in this report. These do not include all of the sources discussed in the 2003 County report, omitting those sources that 1. are applicable only for localized areas, such as Mello Roos taxes, 2. are methods of borrowing funds, but do not actually provide revenues to pay debt service or other costs, and 3. are anticipated to be impractical.

Ad Valorem Property Tax

Property, or Ad Valorem, taxes are based on the assessed valuation of property, multiplied by an annual tax rate. Because of Proposition 13 in 1978, the valuation can increase a maximum two percent per year, unless the property is sold. In that case, the valuation is reset to reflect the sales price. The valuation can be reduced if property values fall and the owner petitions the County. State law provides certain exemptions from property taxes, including government-owned, non-profit, educational, religious, hospital, charitable and cemetery properties.

The property tax is an example of a "general" tax, which proceeds are placed in a city's or county's general fund and used for general government purposes. Special districts cannot levy general taxes. Proposition 13 limits the property tax to one percent of the assessed valuation as a general tax levy, plus an additional tax to pay debt service on bonds approved by the voters. It is very unlikely that the County will be able to fund any of its watershed management program from revenues of the one-percent general tax levy, because the revenues are sorely needed for general County and city purposes. However, the voters could be asked to approve the issuance of bonds to fund the capital needs of the program, with debt service paid from additional property tax. The feasibility of this was demonstrated when City of Los Angeles voters recently approved Proposition O. A two-third's vote of the general electorate would be needed to approve the bonds. Bonds can

only be used to fund capital projects and do not provide the funds for operating the facilities once they are constructed.

If the County's property tax rate were increased by one-half percent of the general tax levy, then the County would receive $41,000,000 per year to pay for debt service on the bonds. The average single-family property, assessed at $260,000, would pay $13 per year additional tax for the debt service.

Parcel Tax

While capital needs could be funded by bonds and property taxes, operation and maintenance needs could be funded by special taxes on properties in the County, often called "parcel taxes." These taxes can be imposed by cities and special districts, but require a two-third's vote for approval. The taxes are often used to fund general services such as public safety, parks, libraries, and open-space protection. In recent years, parcel taxes have been increasingly used to fund school district operations because the legislature reduced the voting threshold to 55 percent for education. Parcel taxes are popular for these types of general services also because Proposition 218 prohibits their funding by property-related assessments and fees.

Parcel taxes are most often levied as a flat amount per parcel, though an amount per square foot or some other calculation of the tax is possible. An annual inflation adjustment can also be incorporated in the formula. The rate must be applied evenly throughout the County or District; no authority is given for zones with different tax rates. Parcel taxes could be levied for any specific period or permanently if the voters would allow it.

Santa Clara Valley Water District implemented a parcel tax costing each single-family homeowner $39 a year to fund watershed protection projects. The assessment was approved by voters in 2000 and will be in effect for fifteen years. The funds will be used for flood protection, pollution reduction and providing recreation and open space. The assessment is based on the acreage of the properties and varies by watershed. Industrial and commercial properties pay more per acre than residential, reflecting their greater potential for discharging runoff and pollutants. A Los Angeles County per-parcel tax of $39 per year would provide $101,000,000 per year to fund watershed management operations.

Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax

In California, a sales tax is imposed on retailers selling tangible goods. An equivalent "use" tax is imposed on users of products purchased out of state but brought into California to be used. The use tax provides much less revenue than the sales tax, partly because use taxes are difficult to collect. A number of sales are not taxed, such as food for home consumption, prescriptions, utilities and most services.

The minimum sales tax rate in California is 7.25 percent, of which 6.25 percent is collected by the State and 1.00 percent is used to fund city and county operations and local transportation. Cities and counties may also impose, in 0.25 percent increments, a maximum 2.00 percent local option sales tax. The maximum possible sales tax in California is therefore 9.25 percent, though no county's tax currently exceeds 8.75 percent.

In Los Angeles County, the sales tax rate is 8.25 percent. The local option sales tax is therefore 1.00 percent, including additional tax for transportation under Propositions A and C. Recently, an additional public safety sales tax failed to receive the necessary two-thirds vote. The County's local option rate can be increased by only 1.00 percent for all purposes, including public safety. The rate can only be increased by 0.50 percent without exceeding the rate in any other county in the State. If a quarter cent sales tax had been approved for watershed management in 2003, it would have generated approximately $285 million per year.

Surcharge on Vehicle License and Registration Fees

A surcharge could be added to vehicle license and registration fees to fund watershed management in the County, based on the logic that much of runoff pollution arises from vehicles and streets. The California Department of Motor Vehicles would collect the surcharge for the County. Current state law allows air quality management districts to impose such surcharges to fund reduction of air pollution from vehicles. Special legislation would be needed for the County to impose a surcharge for watershed management purposes. A surcharge could provide considerable funds. For example, a $10 per vehicle surcharge could provide $65,000,000 per year, based on 6,500,000 registered vehicles in the County.

The County of San Mateo was recently given permission by the State to impose such a surcharge. Assembly Bill 1546, which allows the County to impose a $4 surcharge, passed the Legislature in 2004 and took effect on July 1, 2005. The purpose of the fee is to help fund projects to reduce traffic congestion and stormwater pollution. The fees will be collected by the Department of Motor Vehicles with the annual vehicle registration renewal. Collection of the fees terminates on January 1, 2009. The bill requires that the fees collected may only be used to pay for programs bearing a relationship or benefit to the motor vehicles paying the fee.

The State Legislature recently approved Senate Bill 658, introduced by Senator Sheila Kuehl. The Governor has until October 9, 2005 to sign the bill. The bill would allow coastal counties, including Los Angeles County, to opt for a $6 per year registration surcharge. The Department of Motor Vehicles would provide thirty percent of the proceeds to the County for projects that "prevent, reduce, remediate or mitigate the adverse environmental effects of motor vehicles and their associated facilities and infrastructure." The funds could be therefore be used for many of the County's watershed management projects, because so much of the runoff pollution comes from the vehicles and streets. The remaining funds would be provided to the State Coastal Conservancy for

its projects in the County. The County and Conservancy would be required to undertake audits of the projects and grant monies every two years. This report assumes that the Governor will not sign the bill due to the recent controversy surrounding the Vehicle License Fee.

Gasoline Tax Surcharge

Currently, taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel fund highway improvements in California. These are excise taxes assessed for each gallon of fuel that is sold. An additional per-gallon charge applicable in Los Angeles County could be used for watershed management, based on the logic that vehicles and streets are responsible for much of the runoff pollution. Special state legislation would probably be needed for the County to impose the surcharge. Based on an estimated gasoline usage in the County of 5,500,000 gallons per day, the watershed management program would receive $20,000,000 per year for each cent per gallon surcharge.

Benefit Assessment

The current Flood Control District Benefit Assessment collects approximately $108 million per year primarily to provide flood protection. Some of the revenue supports the District's efforts in meeting the NPDES permit and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) water quality requirements. However, the amount will not be sufficient to pay for future water quality efforts. Moreover, the District does not cover the entire County and would not cover all the areas contributing polluted runoff.

There are two options for using a benefit assessment as a funding source. One option would be to abolish the current assessment and impose a new assessment that would cover all the costs of flood control and watershed management. Another option would be to retain the current assessment to cover flood control costs and another assessment to cover watershed management.

Establishing a new assessment would require the approval of a majority of returned ballots from property owners. However, the ballots would be weighted by the amount of the proposed assessment, so that larger property owners would have greater influence over the outcome of the balloting. Proposition 218 requires that assessments be used to provide a special benefit to the properties and not a general benefit to the public. A new assessment would therefore need to be structured to account for each property's contribution to runoff pollution, but could not be used for providing general benefit, such as purchasing parkland.

Service Fee

A service fee is similar to a benefit assessment, except that it is not necessarily property-related, but is charged to people who are beneficiaries of the service. However, in practice, a fee would probably be charged to properties on the County tax roll because of the low billing cost. One disadvantage of including the fee on the tax roll is that non-

taxable properties, such as churches and government facilities, would not pay for their share of runoff and pollution, unless separately billed. However, it is impractical to include the fee on water bills, because there are hundreds of different water purveyors in the County and not all properties have water service. It also would be difficult for the County to develop a separate billing database including non-taxable properties because of the complication and expense. The City of Santa Ana has such a database for "environmental" charges, but its use has proven to be problematic.

An important difference between a service fee and a property assessment is that, while the assessment must be approved by a simple majority of the assessment-weighted balloting of the property owners, a service fee could be approved by either a simple majority of property owners or by a two-thirds vote of the general electorate. The City of San Diego Attorney's Office has opined that, unlike assessments, balloting by property owners for a new service fee would not be weighted by the level of the fee. Instead, each parcel owner would have one vote, regardless of parcel size.

ACA 13 is a bill before the State Assembly that would allow local governments to impose or increase fees for flood control, stormwater drainage or surface water drainage without property-owner balloting or a two-thirds vote. The bill must be passed by the legislature, signed by the governor and approved by the State's voters before becoming law. To be conservative, this report assumes that ACA 13 will not be enacted.

The Ventura County Watershed Protection District has requested legislation that would allow it to charge an annual fee of $25 per parcel to fund watershed protection, because the District's management feels that obtaining a two-third's vote of the general electorate would be easier than obtaining a majority vote of the property owners for an assessment. AB 1003 passed the Legislature but was vetoed by the Governor because of his concern that it "would not protect against the possibility of imposing a fee without voter approval." A revised bill has been submitted for the Governor's consideration in fall 2005.

Orange County Sanitation District has proposed a countywide fee which will cost property owners as much as $50 a year to keep the beaches clean. The fee would pay for a $25 million project to divert urban runoff from the North and Central County into the District's sewage treatment plants. A vote on the fee has been postponed to 2008.

Proposition 218 tightly controls service fees. The Proposition applies to any fee "imposed by an agency upon a parcel or upon a person as an incident of property ownership, including a user fee or charge for a property-related service." This would seem to apply to the service fee as described in this report, because it would be billed to parcels and the property owners cannot avoid payment by declining the service. As such, the fee cannot 1. generate funds greater than required to provide the property related service, 2. be used for any purpose except that for which the fee is imposed, 3. exceed the proportional cost of the service attributable to the parcel, and 4. be imposed unless the service is actually used by, or immediately available to the owner of the property.

The following table compares the service fees of several cities in California.

Table 2.1
Comparison of Stormwater Service Fees in California

City or County	Typical Household Annual Fee	2004 Population
Riverside County	$ 4.00	1,871,950
City of San Clemente	$ 8.00	59,550
City of San Diego	$ 10.08	1,263,756
City of Los Angeles	$ 24.00	3,845,541
City of Santa Monica	$ 36.00	87,823
City of San Jose	$ 40.44	904,522
City of Davis	$ 45.00	63,722
City of Alameda	$ 53.52	71,136
Sacramento County	$ 70.20	1,352,445
City of Palo Alto	$ 120.00	56,862

Grants

Grants are different than the above funding methods in three ways: 1. They are free, 2. The federal or state governments provide the funds, not the County, and 3. They provide only one-time funding for capital projects. Following are different types of grants that may be available for watershed protection projects.

State Grants. These are competitive grants from the proceeds of state general obligation bonds. The bonds were authorized by Propositions 13, 40 and 50, though the State's voters may also authorize future bonds. Grants that will be funded in fiscal year 2005-06 and that may be applicable to watershed management in Los Angeles County include the following:

- **Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program.** This program includes projects that protect the beneficial uses of water throughout the state through the control of nonpoint source pollution.
- **Urban Storm Water Grant Program.** This program includes projects designed to implement stormwater runoff pollution reduction and prevention programs, including diversion of dry weather flows to publicly owned treatment plants, acquisition and development of constructed wetlands and the implementation of approved best management practices, as required by stormwater permits.
- **Integrated Regional Watershed Management Program.** This program includes projects for development of local watershed management plans, implementation of watershed protection and water management projects, habitat protection and restoration and recreational opportunities. SB 153, the California Clean Water, Safe Neighborhood Parks and Coastal Protection Act of 2006, would fund this

program with $4 billion additional bonds. The bill has passed the State Senate and is being considered in the Assembly.

U.S. Department of Transportation SAFETEA-LU Grants. The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), enacted on August 10, 2005, provides grants for retrofitting or construction of stormwater treatment systems to address environmental problems caused or contributed to by transportation facilities. These grants may be applicable to watershed management projects because much of the runoff arises from public streets and highways. In Los Angeles County, the Metropolitan Transit Authority administers the grants. The Cities of Santa Monica and Los Angeles used a transportation grant under a previous authorization to pay part of the cost of constructing the Santa Monica Urban Runoff Reclamation Facility (SMURRF).

Section 319(h) Nonpoint-source Implementation Grants. These grants are made according to Section 319(h) of the 1987 Clean Water Act Amendments. They are intended to fund projects that "prevent, control and/or abate non-point source water pollution." The State Water Resources Control Board administers the grants in California. Application for the grants is very competitive.

Direct Appropriations from State and Federal Governments. The County can ask its representatives in the State Legislature and U.S. Congress to sponsor legislation that will fund specific projects. A specific appropriation can be a line item for an existing program or as part of general appropriations.

Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Operating Subsidy

In its Local Resources Program, MWD offers annual operating subsidies for projects that recycle water that otherwise would have to be imported. The subsidy may be available, on a competitive basis, for projects that treat and reuse urban runoff. In 2004, the subsidy was $117 per acre-feet of water that is treated and delivered for use. The amount of the subsidy therefore depends on the ability to market and sell recycled water. MWD provides the subsidy for SMURRF because the facility produces water for irrigation.

Retail Water Sales

Water from urban runoff treatment plants can be sold at a discount from potable water rates for irrigation and industrial uses. Serious practical limitations restrict this option, however, including 1. At current rates, the sales revenue from recycled water is often insufficient to cover the capital and operating costs of distributing the water to the customers, 2. It is often difficult to find enough customers within a reasonable distance of the plant to purchase all of the available recycled water and 3. Recycled water must be stored for use during dry periods when the demand is greatest.

Participation by Water Agencies

In many cities, including Los Angeles, the water departments have monopolies on selling recycled water to the retail customers. However, the water departments, and also regional water agencies, may be willing to participate in the construction costs of the projects in return for rights to the water, whether the water is produced by runoff treatment facilities or allowed to infiltrate into the groundwater. As a wastewater example, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power paid the costs of the Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility at the City's Terminal Island Treatment Plant so that the Department could sell the recycled wastewater to neighboring industries. Perhaps, similar arrangements could be made for treated or infiltrated runoff. However, this funding option may suffer some of the same limitations as described above for retail water sales.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The Corps' Civil Works Directorate spends about $500 million per year on environmental activities. Major projects require congressional approval. This funding source may be applicable for environmental projects along waterways owned by the Corps, including the Los Angeles, San Gabriel and Santa Clara Rivers and their major tributaries, such as the Rio Hondo, Compton and Coyote Creeks.

Runoff Discharge Permit Fees

Permits would be issued similar to the permits for discharging industrial waste to the wastewater system. Inspection fees would recover the costs of performing the inspections. Penalties would be imposed for violations. The amounts of the penalties would be set to discourage unlawful runoff discharges, with the proceeds used to fund general watershed management activities. Additional fees could be imposed on the permits to recover systemwide watershed management costs. However, these additional fees are not evaluated in this report because they would be largely duplicative of the other funding sources evaluated in this report and would not be generally applicable.

SECTION 3. CONSIDERATIONS IN EVALUATING THE FUNDING SOURCES

This section discusses technical and administrative considerations in implementing the funding sources and the criteria that are used in evaluating the funding options. Public acceptability is not addressed.

Varying Funding by Watershed

The County may wish to vary a watershed management fee, assessment or tax by watershed, in consideration of the varying costs of the projects in the different watersheds. This report considers if the selected funding source can be varied by watershed, if such is needed for equity and/or political reasons.

Distribution Of Funds And Providing Credits For City Taxes

One issue that needs to be resolved is how to ensure equity across all of the cities and areas of the County. Some cities are already charging their residents for watershed management projects and activities. For example, the City of Los Angeles will charge property taxes to pay debt service on its Proposition O bonds funding capital projects. It is important to ensure that the residents of some cities, such as Los Angeles, are not unfairly paying more for pollution control than other County residents when these cities have already acted on funding the runoff pollution problem. Another important issue is how to distribute funds for projects in the various cities. The solutions to these two issues are linked together. Following are options for resolving these issues.

Option 1 – Reducing Payments for Cities Already Charging their Residents. One option is to reduce the countywide fee or tax to the residents of these cities so that the total payments are the same throughout the County or watershed. More funds would need to be obtained on a countywide basis than with Option 2 below. Funds that are not needed for the County's watershed management projects would be distributed to the different cities for their own projects. With all residents paying the same, there would be no need to distribute the funds in proportion to the cities' contribution of funds. The funds would be distributed to those projects with the greatest impact on pollution, regardless of location. However, as some projects may have multiple benefits such as recreation, the funds paying for these other benefits may still need to be distributed more or less evenly across the County or watersheds.

Advantages of this option include the following:

- Funding resources would be put to the greatest benefit because more of the funds would come from the countywide source. The County would control funding for its projects and for many of the cities' projects and could select those projects with the greatest impact on pollution, regardless of location. This would result in greater overall pollution control than with Option 2.
- With more funds coming from the countywide source, there would be greater economies of scale in obtaining the funds. There would be less administrative cost than if each city obtained more of its own funds.
- Public acceptance of the funding mechanisms will be enhanced if people understand that everyone will pay their fair share of the total watershed management costs.

This option has the following disadvantage:

- This option would require that funding sources allow reductions for those cities with their own funding sources. Property taxes, for example, would work well, because different rates can be made applicable in different tax rate areas. It probably would not be possible, or very effective even if it were possible, to vary sales tax rates in different cities depending on how much they fund their own runoff pollution projects. This option would therefore limit the funding sources that can be used.

Option 2 – County Funding for Local Projects. Another option would be to charge all residents a reduced amount to fund only the County's projects. The cities would be left on their own to pay for their projects, because the County would not fund city projects. This option has the following advantages:

- This option would simplify the administration of the countywide funding source because the same rate would apply in all areas.
- The option would allow a greater range of funding sources, because it would not be necessary to reduce the payments of residents in those cities with their own funding sources.

Disadvantages include the following:

- With each city selecting and paying for its own projects, resources may be used by some cities to fund projects having limited benefit in reducing runoff pollution, while other cities may not have sufficient resources to fund projects with greater watershed management benefit. Overall pollution control may therefore be less than with Option 1.
- Residents in unincorporated areas and in cities that fail to obtain their own funding sources would pay less overall for runoff watershed management than would the residents of the other cities. This would be unfair because the residents of all areas contribute to the pollution problem.

Option 3 – Variant of Option 1. This is similar to Option 1, except that funds from the County are distributed to the cities based on their populations, contributions of funds by their residents or businesses, or some other formula. Option 3 has the following advantage:

- With more funds coming from the countywide source, there would be greater economies of scale in obtaining the funds. There would be less administrative cost than if each city obtained more of its own funds.

Disadvantages include the following:

- This option would require that funding sources allow reductions for those cities with their own funding sources. This option would therefore limit the funding sources that can be used.
- The distribution of funds would be made without regard to the need for projects. Overall pollution control may therefore be reduced.

Conclusion. Based on the above analysis, Option 1 is the proposed method of distributing funds and accounting for cities with their own funding sources. It provides a greater amount of pollution control benefit for the same expenditure and guarantees that residents of all cities pay their fair share of watershed management costs.

Evaluation Criteria

Following is a summary of the criteria that are used to evaluate the funding options in this report:

- **Equity.** Generally, those people that contribute the pollution should pay the costs of watershed management projects in proportion to their contribution. Fairness requires that a relationship, or "nexus," exist between the payment and contribution. This requires consideration of whether runoff was generated on private or public property, on what basis the capital and operating costs are incurred and if the selected funding source results in people paying in proportion to the costs of removing the pollution that they contribute. Proposition 218 requires this criterion for property-related fees and assessments. The criterion is not required for sales and property taxes.
- **Administrative Cost.** The costs of collecting the revenue should be reasonable, which is more likely if an existing system is in place to collect the revenue.
- **Availability of Funds.** The funding sources should contribute sufficient funds to cover much or all of the capital and operating costs.
- **Implementation Feasibility.** The funding sources should fit well with the existing funding sources of the various cities in the County so that the residents in each city contribute their fair share of the Countywide watershed management costs. The funding sources should be able to be varied between watersheds within the County, if the County decides this is needed.
- **Stability of Revenue.** The funding sources should provide a dependable revenue stream.
- **Adoption Requirements.** Some funding sources will have more significant hurdles that must be surmounted for their adoption than other sources. Such hurdles may include voting requirements, legislative action and state or federal appropriations.
- **Flexibility.** The funding sources should be able to be used to cover the different types of costs.

SECTION 4. APPLICABLE FUNDING SOURCES FOR FUTURE COSTS

This section groups the likely future activities and projects into broad categories and then evaluates the funding sources that may be applicable from the perspective of equity. The analysis for future projects includes both the capital costs and O&M costs arising from the projects.

Description of the New Program

The water quality regulations faced by the County and cities include increasingly stringent NPDES permits and TMDL regulations. This includes reducing the pollution in both stormwater and dry-weather runoff, to enhance the quality of the County's beaches and waterways. A TMDL establishes by permit a maximum limit for a specific pollutant that

can be discharged into a water body without causing it to become impaired. The pollutants targeted in this report are trash and bacteria, though the costs of the capital projects can be related to the dry-weather or wet-weather runoff flows. The source of the trash is littering, while bacteria comes from animal droppings, food waste, naturally occurring bacteria and decaying organic matter. Additional TMDLs, such as for heavy metals, are expected in the future. These may require additional types of capital projects besides those used in this report to evaluate the methods of funding the projects.

After a review of new activities and projects related to complying with the above regulations, six broad categories have been identified, based primarily on the type and purpose of the facilities. The six main categories are runoff treatment, low flow diversion, trash capture, stormwater storage and infiltration, dry weather flow storage and infiltration and improvements along waterways and lakes.

Runoff Treatment. These are runoff treatment facilities similar to SMURRF. The purpose of the facilities is to remove pollution in runoff and to recycle water suitable for irrigation and recharge.

Low Flow Diversion. These are diversions to sanitary treatment plants of dry-weather runoff to remove a source of pollution. Due to economies of scale, runoff treatment at sanitary treatment plants costs less than at runoff treatment plants such as SMURRF. However, the diversions do not provide additional water for reuse because the plant owners cannot typically reuse all of the water that they treat.

Trash Capture. These are devices, such as catch basin screens and continuous deflection separators, which capture trash for later disposal. The devices need labor intensive maintenance to remove and dispose trash.

Stormwater Storage and Infiltration. These projects include devices that 1. store wet-weather runoff, including retention grading, and bioretention that may also filter the runoff or remove organic material, 2. cisterns that serve to reduce peak flows and reduce water use as the cistern water is used for irrigation and 3. porous pavement in areas with permeable soils, such as the East San Fernando Valley, that reduces peak storm flows and enhances infiltration into the groundwater. The devices may be small enough to be installed and paid for by individual property owners, as required for new construction permits.

The projects may also include larger flood control basins and detention basins to store stormwater. Such storage may allow infiltration of stormwater over time, with the benefits of capturing pollutants in the soil and augmenting the groundwater. Storage will also reduce downstream peak stormwater flows, allowing downstream facilities to remove a larger percentage of the polluted stormwater.

Dry Weather Flow Storage. Devices such as retention grading, driveway dry wells and bioretention may also be used to store and filter dry-weather runoff. The devices may be

small enough to be installed and paid for by individual property owners, as required for construction permits.

Improvements Along Waterways and Lakes. These projects divert polluted runoff from waterways and lakes, often filtering out pollutants in constructed wetlands or strip filters. They improve the condition of waterways and provide recreational opportunities.

Multi-benefit Projects

Many projects provide opportunities for multiple benefits. For example, a constructed wetland could provide recreational benefits in addition to filtering pollutants from runoff. In some cases, these additional benefits may allow the use of additional funding sources for constructing or operating the projects. For example, selling water for irrigation could offset some of the operating costs of the projects. Including other benefits may also reduce the cost of the watershed management portions of the projects. Following are some of the possible benefits of the projects besides removing pollutants from runoff:

Flood Control. The wet weather storage and infiltration projects discussed above have an added flood control benefit of reducing the peak flows of runoff. A portion of the project costs could therefore be paid from the existing flood control assessment in recognition of this benefit.

Water Reuse. Some of the projects provide water that can be reused, thereby reducing the need for water that must be imported. Projects with runoff infiltration will augment groundwater supplies, while projects that treat runoff will provide water for direct use. The Metropolitan Water District, Los Angeles Water and Power and other water agencies may be willing to contribute funds towards projects that reduce the amount of water that they must import. This benefit is exemplified by SMURRF.

Water sales for irrigation or other uses might offset some of the costs of multi-benefit projects. Unfortunately, at today's water prices, the capital costs of distributing such water will most often exceed the water sales revenue. In the short run, there will probably be no net revenues that can be used to offset the capital costs of capturing and treating the water, though the net sales may offset some of the operating costs.

Recreation and Tourism. Constructed wetlands and other vegetated areas used for removing pollutants might also provide recreational and esthetic benefits. This might be used to justify using park and urban enhancement bond funds to pay for portions of the projects. However, there may be considerable competition for park funds. Urban stream renewal grants have been available for such projects.

Possible Funding Sources for the Projects

For each of six categories, the tables below identify hydraulic or pollution loading types and sources, which in turn determine the possible sources of funding based on the principle of "polluter pays". The tables also discuss how well the possible funding sources

provide the nexus between payment of the project costs and pollution contribution. Benefits other than watershed management, such as flood control, recreation and water supply, are also shown in the tables.

Table 4.1
Funding Sources for Runoff Treatment Projects

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
Capital	Dry-weather flow	Runoff from streets and other public areas	Local sales tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people play to control runoff from public places.
			Bond and associated property tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay for runoff from public places, either through tax bills or through rents.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on use of the property	This provides a reasonable nexus if one assumes that responsibility for runoff volume from streets is proportional to runoff volume from properties.
			Flat surcharge on vehicle License and registration fees	Assumes that all vehicles use the streets equally. This provides a reasonable nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to runoff, but not as good a nexus as a gasoline tax.
			Gasoline tax	Good nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to runoff.
		Runoff from private property (Car washing, irrigation overspray, etc.)	Service fee or benefit assessment based on use of the property	Can provide a good nexus if studies provide a reasonable estimate of dry-weather runoff based on property use.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on total area and impervious area	Payment is based on an estimate of storm runoff generation. This provides a poor nexus between payment and the amount of dry-weather runoff.
			Bond and associated property tax	The nexus between dry-weather runoff and assessed value is poor.
			Water bill surcharge	An Irvine Ranch Water District study indicates a linkage between water use and dry-weather runoff.
			Construction grants	
	Beneficial use of water		Participation by the Metropolitan Water District or other water agency	Water agencies may be willing to pay some of the cost, because this should reduce the amount of water that they must import.
			Recycled water sales	Water sales may be used in some limited cases to cover the capital costs of producing the water.
O&M	Bacteria and other pollutants	Pollution from streets and other public areas (dog feces, littering, gasoline, brake lining dust, etc.)	Local sales tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people play to control runoff from public places.
			Parcel tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay for runoff from public places, either through tax bills or through rents.
			Service fee based on use of the property	This provides a reasonable nexus if one assumes that responsibility for runoff pollution from streets is proportional to runoff pollution from properties.
			Flat surcharge on vehicle License and registration fees	Assumes that all vehicles use the streets equally. This provides a reasonable nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to runoff, but not as good a nexus as a gasoline tax.
			Gasoline tax	Good nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to pollution from vehicles.

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
		Pollution from private property (Car washing, irrigation overspray, etc.)	Parcel tax	Although the formula can be varied somewhat from a per-parcel tax, it probably cannot be structured to provide a good nexus between pollution contribution and payment.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on use of the property	The fee or assessment can be structured to provide a good nexus between pollution contribution and payment.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on total area and impervious area	Payment is based on an estimate of storm runoff generation. This provides a poor nexus between payment and the amount of dry-weather runoff.
	Beneficial use of water		Metropolitan Water District operating subsidy	Water agencies may be willing to pay some of the cost, because this should reduce the amount of water that they must import.
			Water sales	Water sales less the costs of distribution pumping may cover some of the O&M costs of producing the water.

Table 4.2
Funding Sources for Low Flow Diversion Projects

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
Capital	Dry-weather flow	Runoff from streets and other public areas	Local sales tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people play to control runoff from public places.
			Bond and associated property tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay for runoff from public places, either through tax bills or through rents.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on use of the property	This provides a reasonable nexus if one assumes that responsibility for runoff volume from streets is proportional to runoff volume from properties.
			Flat surcharge on vehicle License and registration fees	Assumes that all vehicles use the streets equally. This provides a reasonable nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to runoff, but not as good a nexus as a gasoline tax.
			Gasoline tax	Good nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribule to runoff.
		Runoff from private property (Car washing, irrigation overspray, etc.)	Service fee or benefit assessment based on use of the property	Can provide a good nexus if studies provide a reasonable estimate of dry-weather runoff based on property use.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on total area and impervious area	Payment is based on an estimate of storm runoff generation. This provides a poor nexus between payment and the amount of dry-weather runoff.
			Bond and associated property tax	The nexus between dry-weather runoff and assessed value is poor.
			Water bill surcharge	An Irvine Ranch Water District study indicates a linkage between water use and dry-weather runoff.
			Construction grants	
O&M	Bacteria and other pollutants	Pollution from streets and other public areas (dog feces, littering, gasoline, brake lining dust, etc.)	Local sales tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people play to control runoff from public places.
			Parcel tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay for runoff from public places, either through tax bills or through rents.

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
			Service fee based on use of the property	This provides a reasonable nexus if one assumes that responsibility for runoff pollution from streets is proportional to runoff pollution from properties.
			Flat surcharge on vehicle License and registration fees	Assumes that all vehicles use the streets equally. This provides a reasonable nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to runoff, but not as good a nexus as a gasoline tax.
			Gasoline tax	Good nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to pollution from vehicles.
		Pollution from private property (Car washing, pesticides, nutrients, fertilizer, etc.)	Parcel tax	Although the formula can be varied somewhat from a per-parcel tax, it probably cannot be structured to provide a good nexus between pollution contribution and payment.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on use of the property	Can provide a good nexus if studies provide a reasonable estimate of pollution based on property use.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on total area and impervious area	Easier to calculate, but not as good a nexus, because pollutant contribution is poorly related to property size and imperviousness, especially when comparing industrial, commercial and residential uses of property.

Table 4.3
Funding Sources for Trash Capture Projects

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
Capital and O&M	Volume of trash	Littering on streets and in other public areas	Property tax and Parcel Tax	These funding sources are appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay for trash in public places, either through tax bills or through rents.
			Local sales tax	There may be a nexus between purchases subject to sales tax and littering. Moreover, this funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people play to control trash in public places.
			Flat surcharge on vehicle License and registration fees	Reasonable nexus between payment and use of the streets. However, this works only for the trash contributed by vehicle owners, forcing vehicle owners to pay for the trash contributed by pedestrians.
			Gasoline tax	Good nexus between payment and use of the streets. However, this works only for the trash contributed by vehicle owners, forcing vehicle owners to pay for the trash contributed by pedestrians.
			Tax on commodities	This would provide a good nexus between the payment and costs of trash removal, if it were possible to tax all the different sources of trash. However, it would not be feasible to do so.
			Construction grants	

Table 4.4
Funding Sources for Stormwater Storage and Infiltration Projects

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
Capital	Wet-weather flow	Storm runoff from streets and other public areas	Local sales tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay to control runoff from public places.
			Bond and associated property tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay for runoff from public places, either through tax bills or through rents.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on are and impervious area	This provides a reasonable nexus if one assumes that responsibility for runoff volume from streets is proportional to runoff volume from properties.
			Flat surcharge on vehicle License and registration fees	Assumes that all vehicles use the streets equally. This provides a reasonable nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to runoff, but not as good a nexus as a gasoline tax.
			Gasoline tax	Good nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to runoff.
		Storm runoff from private property	Service fee or benefit assessment based on total area and impervious area	Payment is based on an estimate of storm runoff generation, provides an excellent nexus between payment and the amount of runoff.
			Bond and associated property tax	The nexus between wet-weather runoff and assessed value is poor.
			Individual property owners	Devices, such as retention grading, driveway dry wells and bioretention, may be required of new development to mitigate increased peak flows and pollution caused by the development.
			Participation by water agencies	Water agencies may be willing to pay some of the cost, because this should reduce the amount of water that they must import.
			Construction grants	
	Flood control benefit		Current flood control assessment	The flood control benefit may justify using funds from the current assessment.
	Beneficial use of water infiltrated into the groundwater		Participation by water agencies	Water agencies may be willing to pay some of the cost, because this should reduce the amount of water that they must import.
O&M	Bacteria and other pollutants	Pollution from streets and other public areas (dog feces, littering, gasoline, brake lining dust, etc.)	Local sales tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay to control runoff from public places.
			Parcel tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay for runoff from public places, either through tax bills or through rents.
			Service fee based on use of the property	This provides a reasonable nexus if one assumes that responsibility for runoff pollution from streets is proportional to runoff pollution from properties.
			Flat surcharge on vehicle License and registration fees	Assumes that all vehicles use the streets equally. This provides a reasonable nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to runoff, but not as good a nexus as a gasoline tax.
			Gasoline tax	Good nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to pollution from vehicles.
		Pollution from private property (Car washing, pesticides, nutrients,	Parcel tax	Although the formula can be varied somewhat from a per-parcel tax, it probably cannot be structured to provide a good nexus between pollution contribution and payment.

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
		fertilizer, etc.)	Service fee or benefit assessment based on use of the property	Can provide a good nexus if studies provide a reasonable estimate of pollution based on property use.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on total area and impervious area	Easier to calculate, but not as good a nexus, because pollutant contribution is poorly related to property size and imperviousness, especially when comparing industrial, commercial and residential uses of property.
	Flood control benefit		Current flood control assessment	The flood control benefit may justify using funds from the current assessment.
	Beneficial use of water infiltrated into the groundwater		Reimbursement by water agencies for water that is available for future pumping.	Water agencies may be willing to pay some of the cost, because this should reduce the amount of water that they must import.

Table 4.5
Funding Sources for Dry Weather Flow Storage Projects

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
Capital	Dry-weather flow	Runoff from streets and other public areas	Local sales tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay to control runoff from public places.
			Bond and associated property tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay for runoff from public places, either through tax bills or through rents.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on use of the property	This provides a reasonable nexus if one assumes that responsibility for runoff volume from streets is proportional to runoff volume from properties.
			Flat surcharge on vehicle License and registration fees	Assumes that all vehicles use the streets equally. This provides a reasonable nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to runoff, but not as good a nexus as a gasoline tax.
			Gasoline tax	Good nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to runoff.
		Runoff from private property	Service fee or benefit assessment based on use of the property	Can provide a good nexus if studies provide a reasonable estimate of dry-weather runoff based on property use.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on total area and impervious area	Payment is based on an estimate of storm runoff generation. This provides a poor nexus between payment and the amount of dry-weather runoff.
			Bond and associated property tax	The nexus between dry-weather runoff and assessed value is poor.
			Individual property owners	Devices, such as retention grading, driveway dry wells and bioretention, may be required of new development to mitigate increased peak flows and pollution caused by the development.
			Water bill surcharge	An Irvine Ranch Water District study indicates a linkage between water use and dry-weather runoff.
			Construction grants	
O&M	Bacteria and other pollutants	Pollution from streets and other public areas (dog feces, littering, gasoline, brake lining dust, etc.)	Local sales tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay to control runoff from public places.
			Service fee based on use of the property	This provides a reasonable nexus if one assumes that responsibility for runoff pollution from streets is proportional to runoff pollution from properties.

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
			Parcel tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay for runoff from public places, either through tax bills or through rents.
			Flat surcharge on vehicle License and registration fees	Assumes that all vehicles use the streets equally. This provides a reasonable nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to runoff, but not as good a nexus as a gasoline tax.
			Gasoline tax	Good nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to pollution from vehicles.
		Pollution from private property (Car washing, pesticides, nutrients, fertilizer, etc.)	Parcel tax	Although the formula can be varied somewhat from a per-parcel tax, it probably cannot be structured to provide a good nexus between pollution contribution and payment.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on use of the property	Can provide a good nexus if studies provide a reasonable estimate of pollution based on property use.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on total area and impervious area	Easier to calculate, but not as good a nexus, because pollutant contribution is poorly related to property size and imperviousness, especially when comparing industrial, commercial and residential uses of property.
	Beneficial use of water infiltrated into the groundwater		Reimbursement by water agencies for water that is available for future pumping.	Water agencies may be willing to pay some of the cost, because this should reduce the amount of water that they must import. However, the amount of dry-weather flow that can be infiltrated may be limited because of groundwater contamination concerns.

Table 4.6
Funding Sources for Improvements Along Waterways and Lakes

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
Capital	Dry-weather and perhaps wet-weather flow	Runoff from streets and other public areas	Local sales tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people play to control runoff from public places.
			Bond and associated property tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay for runoff from public places, either through tax bills or through rents.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on use of the property	This provides a reasonable nexus if one assumes that responsibility for runoff volume from streets is proportional to runoff volume from properties.
			Flat surcharge on vehicle License and registration fees	Assumes that all vehicles use the streets equally. This provides a reasonable nexus between use of the streets that contribute to runoff, but not as good a nexus as a gasoline tax.
			Gasoline tax	Good nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to runoff.
		Runoff from private property (Car washing, irrigation overspray, etc.)	Service fee or benefit assessment based on use of the property	Can provide a good nexus if studies provide a reasonable estimate of dry-weather runoff based on property use.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on total area and impervious area	Payment is based on an estimate of storm runoff generation. This provides a poor nexus between payment and the amount of dry-weather runoff.
			Bond and associated property tax	The nexus between runoff and assessed value is poor.
			Participation by the U.S. Corps of Engineers	The Corps may be willing to pay some of the cost of projects alongside channels owned by them.

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
			Construction grants	
	Recreation and Esthetic Improvement Benefit		Recreation bond funds	Park bond funds might be used to pay for portions of the projects. However, there will be considerable competition for park funds.
			Local sales tax	Use of this type of revenue is consistent with the general nature of this benefit.
			Bond and property tax	Use of this type of revenue is consistent with the general nature of this benefit.
O&M		Runoff from streets and other public areas	Local sales tax	Use of this type of revenue is consistent with the general nature of this benefit.
			Parcel tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay for runoff from public places, either through tax bills or through rents.
			Service fee based on use of the property	This provides a reasonable nexus if one assumes that responsibility for runoff pollution from streets is proportional to runoff pollution from properties.
			Flat surcharge on vehicle License and registration fees	Assumes that all vehicles use the streets equally. This provides a reasonable nexus between use of the streets that contribute to runoff, but not as good a nexus as a gasoline tax.
			Gasoline tax	Good nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to pollution from vehicles.
		Runoff from private property (Car washing, irrigation overspray, etc.)	Parcel tax	Although the formula can be varied somewhat from a per-parcel tax, it probably cannot be structured to provide a good nexus between pollution contribution and payment.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on use of the property	Can provide a good nexus if studies provide a reasonable estimate of the quality of dry-weather runoff based on property use.
			Service fee or benefit assessment based on total area and impervious area	Payment is based on an estimate of storm runoff generation. This provides a poor nexus between payment and the amount of dry-weather runoff.
	Recreation and Esthetic Improvement Benefit		Local sales tax	Use of this type of revenue is consistent with the general nature of the benefit.
			Parcel tax	Use of this type of revenue is consistent with the general nature of the benefit.

SECTION 5. APPLICABLE FUNDING SOURCES FOR CURRENT WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

The Los Angeles Country Flood Control District and various cities in the County have ongoing activities aimed at mitigating runoff pollution. In many cases, these activities have been recently scaled back to provide funds and staff for TMDL compliance. Restoration of the funds may therefore need to be incorporated in a future funding structure. Below is a summary list of the current activities, not including the planning and design of future capital projects.

Inspection/Enforcement. The main goal of this operation is to ensure that industrial and commercial businesses follow and implement best management practices to prevent pollutants such as grease from restaurants, oils from automotive repair, and bacterial laden food from food processing activities from being washed down the storm drain.

Enforcement ensures that violators are punished properly by applying penalties and any applicable statutes.

Catch Basin Cleaning and Road Sweeping. Catch basins serve as the primary point through which stormwater and urban runoff enter the storm drain network. Littering is the primary cause of catch basin blockage. Clogged catch basins, as well as being unsanitary and unsightly, have the potential to cause flooding, especially during rain events. The City of Los Angeles owns about 35,000 catch basins and cleans them at least once a year.

Public Education And Stormwater Hotline. This aims to increase public knowledge of the impact of runoff pollution, assist in information dissemination and encourage a change in behavior that contributes to stormwater pollution, such as littering and illegal dumping of waste. Activities include printing brochures, conducting educational workshops, stenciling catch basins and many more. In addition, toll-free hotlines are available for the public to report abandoned wastes and chemical spills that will drain into catch basins and the storm drain system.

The tables below summarize the main activities and identify possible sources of funding.

Table 5.1
Funding Sources for Enforcement/Inspection

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
Inspection and enforcement			Inspection fee for permit	Since this would vary with the type of business, there could be a very good nexus between the expected inspection costs and the amount of the fee.
			Violation Penalties	The penalties would ensure that the dischargers, rather than the general public, would bear the costs of dealing with unlawful discharges.
			Local sales tax	This funding source is appropriate if it is not practical to assess inspection fees.
			Parcel tax	This funding source would be appropriate if it is not practical to assess inspection fees.

Table 5.2
Funding Sources for Catch Basin Cleaning and Street Sweeping

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
O&M	Trash	Littering from streets and other public areas by the public	Local sales tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit as it makes all people pay to control littering which is the source of trash in catch basins.
			Parcel tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay for trash in public places, either through tax bills or through rents.

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
			Tax on commodities	This would provide a good nexus between the payment and costs of trash removal, if it were possible to tax all the different sources of trash. However, it would not be feasible to do so.
			Flat surcharge on vehicle license and registration fees	Reasonable nexus between payment and use of the streets. However, this works only for the trash contributed by vehicle owners, forcing vehicle owners to pay for the trash contributed by pedestrians.
			Gasoline tax	Good nexus between payment and use of the streets. However, this works only for the trash contributed by vehicle owners, forcing vehicle owners to pay for the trash contributed by pedestrians.

Table 5.3
Funding Sources for Public Education Hotline

Cost Type	Load Type	Source of Load	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
O&M	Trash, Bacteria	Illegal discharges and littering	Local sales tax	This funding source is appropriate for this general benefit in that it makes all people pay to control the problem before it reaches the storm drains.
			Parcel tax	This funding source would be appropriate for this general benefit because it makes all people pay, either through tax bills or through rents.
			Gasoline Tax	Good nexus between payment and use of the streets that contribute to pollution from vehicles.

SECTION 6. ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF THE ALTERNATIVE FUNDING SOURCES

This section develops the advantages and disadvantages of the alternative funding sources.

Property Tax for Capital with a Special Purpose Parcel Tax for O&M

Property taxes can be used to pay the debt service costs on bonds, in which case the voters would be asked to authorize bonds with a corresponding increase in property tax rates. Property taxes cannot be used to finance O&M activities, so a special purpose parcel tax would be used. Advantages of this funding source including the following:

- The combination of property and parcel taxes can be used to fund all elements of the runoff pollution program.

- Property and parcel taxes are frequently used to pay for general benefits. They would therefore make all people pay for trash in public places, either through their tax bills or through rents. They would also make businesses pay. They would also be appropriate for funding the general benefits of multipurpose projects, such as parks and wetlands.
- Administrative costs of collecting the taxes will be low because they can be included on the County's property tax roll.
- These funding sources could provide as much funds as needed for the entire program. The County would receive $41,000,000 per year to cover debt service on the bonds with a rate increase of only one-half percent of the general tax levy. The average single-family property would pay only $13 per year additional tax.
- An additional per-parcel tax of only $39 per year would provide $101,000,000 to fund operations.

Disadvantages include the following:

- Revenues could be reduced somewhat if falling property values force the County to lower assessed valuations. In times of stable values, revenues may increase slower than inflation, especially construction inflation, since the assessment increases at only two percent per year unless the properties are sold.
- The equity of using property taxes is diminished because owners will pay differing amounts of the property taxes depending on how long they have owned their properties.
- These funding sources cannot be used to charge public property, churches and other tax-exempt properties.
- Service fees or benefit assessments can be structured to provide a much better nexus between payments by property owners and the costs of reducing pollution in runoff from the properties.
- Two-thirds of the general electorate would need to approve the increased taxes.
- A parcel tax would not work well for the preferred Option 1 of keeping all residents' payments for watershed management the same by reducing the assessments of the residents of cities with their own funding sources. A parcel tax approved in a Countywide or District-wide vote cannot be varied by area.
- The County would not have the option of varying the parcel tax by watershed.

Local Option Sales Tax for Capital and O&M

Advantages of this funding source include the following:

- Sales taxes are frequently used to pay for general benefits, such as reducing pollution in runoff from streets and other public areas. It makes all people pay to control runoff from public places.
- There may be a nexus between purchases subject to sales tax and littering.
- A quarter cent sales tax could generate approximately $285 million per year. This funding source can easily provide as much funds as needed for the entire program.

The disadvantages include the following:

- This alternative would not work well for the preferred Option 1 of keeping all residents' payments for watershed management the same by reducing the assessments of the residents of cities with their own funding sources. It would be impossible or impractical to vary the sales tax rate by city.
- There is no nexus between payment of sales taxes and the amount of polluted runoff generated by private property.
- Revenues from sales taxes can vary significantly depending on economic conditions.
- Over the last twenty years, sales taxes have declined in California as a percentage of personal income. This is partly due to a shift from the purchase of taxable goods toward nontaxable services and intangible goods. The tax erosion has also been caused by Internet sales, which are supposedly taxable, but difficult to collect. Further declines in sales taxes are expected because of increased Internet sales.
- Increasing the tax rate will make the County's retailers less competitive than in other neighboring counties. This could reduce sales tax revenues somewhat by shifting sales outside the County.
- Because the tax rate can only be increased by an additional half percent without becoming higher than in any other county, there will be substantial competition for increasing sales taxes from law enforcement and other public needs.
- Sales taxes are highly regressive, so that poorer people would pay a higher part of their income for watershed management than others.
- Two-thirds of the general electorate would need to approve the increased taxes.
- The County could not practically vary sales tax rates by watershed.

Flat Surcharge on Vehicle License and Registration Fees

Advantages of this funding source include the following:

- This provides a reasonable nexus between payment and use of the public streets that contribute runoff, as well as pollutants that are emitted by motor vehicles, but not as good a nexus as a gasoline tax surcharge.
- There is already a system in place to collect and distribute the revenue, so there should be little additional cost in administering the system.
- The surcharge could provide considerable funds, $65,000,000 per year for a $10 surcharge.

Disadvantages include the following:

- This alternative would not work well for the preferred Option 1 of keeping all residents' payments for watershed management the same by reducing the assessments of the residents of cities with their own funding sources. It would be impossible or impractical to vary the surcharge by city.

- The legislature would need to approve the surcharge for watershed management purposes, assuming that the Governor vetoes Proposition 658.
- There is no nexus between payment of the surcharge and the generation of polluted runoff from private property, except for runoff generated from car washing.
- There is a poor nexus between payment and generation of trash, because pedestrians, not drivers, contribute most trash.
- The revenue would not be available if the Vehicle License and Registration Fees are abolished for political reasons.
- The County would not have the option of varying the surcharge by watershed.

Surcharge on Gasoline Tax

Advantages of this funding source including the following:

- This provides a good nexus between payment and use of the public streets that contribute runoff, as well as pollutants that are emitted by motor vehicles. Use of streets and generation of pollutants are directly correlated to the amount of gasoline used by the vehicles.
- There is already a system in place to collect and distribute the revenue, so there should be little additional cost in administering the system.
- This funding source could provide as much funds as needed for the entire program, an estimated $20,000,000 for each cent per gallon surcharge

Disadvantages include the following:

- This alternative would not work well for the preferred Option 1 of keeping all residents' payments for watershed management the same by reducing the assessments of the residents of cities with their own funding sources. It would be impossible or impractical to vary the surcharge by city.
- Voters would need to approve the surcharge. This may be difficult with the current high gasoline prices.
- Legislative approval may be needed.
- There is no nexus between payment of the surcharge and the generation of polluted runoff from private property, except for runoff generated from car washing.
- There is a poor nexus between payment and generation of trash, because pedestrians, not drivers, contribute most trash.
- The County would not have the option of varying the surcharge by watershed.

Benefit Assessment

Advantages of this funding source including the following:

- This alternative would work well for the preferred Option 1, keeping all residents' payments for watershed management the same by reducing the assessments of the residents of cities with their own funding sources. The assessment rate could be adjusted for properties in different cities.

- Benefit assessments provide a good nexus between payments by property owners and the costs of reducing pollution in runoff from the properties. Assessments based on total area and impervious area provide a good estimation of runoff generated by the properties. They would correlate well with the capital costs of projects that are usually designed based on the volume of wet-weather runoff. Assessments that estimate the pollution and dry-weather runoff generated on properties based on the types of developments on the properties would correlate well with operation and maintenance costs and with the capital costs of dry-weather storage, improvements along waterways and lakes, low-flow diversions and runoff treatment projects.
- Assessments may provide a reasonable nexus between payments and the costs of reducing runoff pollution generated in streets, if one assumes that responsibility for runoff volume and pollution from streets is proportional to runoff from properties.
- The assessments could be used to reduce pollution from runoff generated on private property, because that would be considered to be a special benefit of each property.
- Revenues from the assessments would be very stable, not varying much with economic conditions.
- The administrative costs of including the assessment on the property tax bill are low, approximately $0.20 per parcel.
- This funding source could provide as much funds as needed for the entire program.
- The County would have the option of varying the surcharge by watershed.

Disadvantages include the following:

- According to Proposition 218, a detailed engineer's report must be prepared determining the cost of the proportional special benefit to each parcel. The assessments may only recover the costs of special benefits over and above general benefits conferred to the public. County Counsel should be asked if the reduction of pollution in runoff or trash generated on streets or other public areas is a general benefit that cannot be included in the assessment. If it cannot be included in the assessment, then a benefit assessment would not be practical as a funding source.
- There would be no nexus between the assessment and the amounts of trash collected in trash capture projects.
- The equity of benefit assessments will be greatly improved if dry-weather flow and runoff pollution from properties can be estimated based on use of the properties. This has not been widely done in the stormwater and watershed management industry, however.
- A majority of the property owners would need to approve the fees or assessments on a weighted basis. The owners of large properties could therefore stop the assessments, even if most property owners approve.

If the existing flood control benefit assessment is abolished and folded into an assessment covering more of the County, then the assessment should have two

components, 1. a flood control component based on the current estimation of wet-weather runoff, and 2. a watershed management component based on an estimation of dry-weather runoff and pollution for each type of property use. Otherwise, the assessment will not accurately reflect the costs of both flood control and watershed management for the property.

Service Fee

Advantages of this funding source including the following:

- This alternative would work well for the preferred Option 1, keeping all residents' payments for watershed management the same by reducing the assessments of the residents of cities with their own funding sources. The fee rate could be adjusted for properties in different cities.
- Service fees provide a good nexus between payments by property owners and the costs of reducing pollution in runoff from the properties. Fees based on total area and impervious area provide a good estimation of runoff generated by the properties. They would correlate well with the capital costs of projects that are usually designed based on the volume of wet-weather runoff. Fees that estimate the pollution and dry-weather runoff generated on properties based on the types of developments on the properties would correlate well with operation and maintenance costs and the capital cost of projects that are designed based on dry-weather runoff.
- Service fees may provide a reasonable nexus between payments and the costs of reducing runoff pollution generated in streets, if one assumes that responsibility for runoff volume and pollution from streets is proportional to runoff from properties.
- Revenues from the fee would be very stable, not varying much with economic conditions.
- Assuming that the fee will be charged on the County property tax bills, the administrative costs should be low, approximately $0.20 per parcel. This amounts to less than one percent of the revenue from the City of Los Angeles' Stormwater Watershed Management Charge.
- This funding source could provide as much funds as needed for the entire program.
- The County would have the option of varying the surcharge by watershed.

Disadvantages include the following:

- Two-thirds of the general electorate or one-half of the property owners would need to approve the fees.
- County Counsel should be consulted to determine if the Los Angeles County Flood Control District could impose service fees instead of or in addition to the current benefit assessment. State legislation was needed so that the Ventura County Watershed Protection District could impose such a fee.
- There would be no nexus between the fee and the amounts of trash collected in trash capture projects.

- The equity of service fees will be greatly improved if dry-weather flow and runoff pollution from properties can be estimated based on use of the properties. This has not been widely done in the stormwater and watershed management industry, however.
- According to Proposition 218, the fee cannot be imposed to recover the costs of general governmental services. The fee might therefore not be able to recover the costs of multiple benefits such as habitat protection, conservation and recreation. For example, if a constructed wetland were considered to provide recreational benefits in addition to pollution reduction benefits, then the cost of the recreational component would need to be funded from general taxes rather than the service fee. If this interpretation of Proposition 218 holds, then a service fee would not be flexible enough to cover all of the costs of the potential projects described above. However, this would not be as restrictive as for a benefit assessment.

If the existing flood control benefit assessment is abolished and folded into a service fee, then the fee should have two components, 1. a flood control component based on the current estimation of wet-weather runoff, and 2. a watershed management component based on an estimation of dry-weather runoff and pollution for each type of property use. Otherwise, the fee will not accurately reflect the costs of both flood control and watershed management for a property.

Construction Grants, MWD Operating Subsidies, Corps of Engineers Participation, Water Sales and Participation by Water Utilities

These funding sources are grouped together because they all have the huge advantage of not having to be repaid. Disadvantages of these funding sources include the following:

- The application process for grants, MWD operating subsidies and Corps of Engineers participation is time-consuming.
- MWD operating subsidies may not be reliable in difficult economic times.
- Corps of Engineers participation will require federal approval and appropriation of the funds.
- There may be much competition for these funding sources.
- There may be extensive grant compliance requirements, including grant audits.
- Water sales revenues will probably not cover the capital costs of the pipelines and storage needed to distribute treated water where and when it is needed, let alone the costs of a runoff treatment facility. Such costs may also affect water agencies' willingness to participate in the construction costs of runoff treatment projects. Sales revenues may cover much of the operating and maintenance costs, however.
- Participation by water utilities will require negotiation of the terms of the participation and ongoing administration of the contract.
- These sources could provide funds for only portions of the watershed management program.

Runoff Discharge Permit Fee

This funding source has the following advantage:

- Equity would be enhanced because inspection and enforcement fees could track closely the costs of performing these activities.

Disadvantages include the following:

- A new administrative system would need to be established, including a database of permittees and billing procedures. There would be considerable one-time costs to implement the permits and fees.
- Many cities already provide inspection of businesses in their jurisdiction. The fees would therefore not be applicable throughout the County.
- This would be appropriate as a funding source for only the costs of inspection and enforcement.

SECTION 7. CONCLUSION

Of the funding sources evaluated in the Section 6, three were judged to be the most promising for funding most of the costs of the watershed management program. They are property taxes coupled with parcel taxes, benefit assessments and service fees. All three sources comply well with the following evaluation criteria described in Section 3:

- **Administrative Cost.** The sources have relatively low administrative costs. They can be billed from the County property tax roll, avoiding the establishment of a new billing system.
- **Availability of Funds.** The sources all can provide sufficient funds for the entire watershed management program.

The following table compares the three best funding sources in relation to the remaining evaluation criteria.

Table 7.1
Comparison of the Three Best Funding Alternatives

Funding Source	Equity	Implementation Feasibility	Stability of Revenue	Adoption Requirements	Flexibility
Bonds and Property Tax for Capital, Parcel Tax for O&M	They make all people pay for runoff from public places and would be appropriate for funding the general benefits of multipurpose projects. Poor nexus between payment and runoff from private properties. These funding sources cannot be used to charge public	Parcel taxes cannot be varied to fit well with the existing funding sources of the cities to guarantee that all residents pay their fair share. Parcel taxes could not vary between watersheds.	Property tax revenues could be reduced somewhat if falling property values force the County to lower assessed valuations. Parcel tax revenues are stable.	Requires 2/3 vote.	Can cover all types of costs.

	property, churches and other tax-exempt properties.				
Benefit Assessment	Good nexus between payment and contribution to runoff from private property. Must assume that responsibility for runoff from streets is proportional to runoff from private property.	Can be varied to fit well with the existing funding sources of the cities to guarantee that all residents pay their fair share. Assessments could vary between watersheds.	Revenues are very stable.	Requires half of the weighted vote of property owners. Large properties could threaten the vote.	Cannot cover the costs of general benefits.
Service Fee	Good nexus between payment and contribution to runoff from private property. Must assume that responsibility for runoff from streets is proportional to runoff from private property.	Can be varied to fit well with the existing funding sources of the cities to guarantee that all residents pay their fair share. The fees could vary between watersheds.	Revenues are very stable.	Requires either half of unweighted vote of property owners or 2/3 vote of the general electorate.	Cannot be used for general government services, but will likely cover more cost than assessments.

This paper does not recommend a single best funding source for watershed management. The advantages and disadvantages of the alternative sources are presented in this paper so that policy-makers can decide among them. The sources are not mutually exclusive. They can be combined, if desired, to cover different types of projects and costs.

It is recommended that construction grants, MWD operating subsidies, Corps of Engineers participation, water sales revenues and participation by water utilities be pursued as they may be available. Some of these sources may be available to cover water recycling and other multiple benefits of the projects. There are certain costs in applying and negotiating for these sources, but the fact that they do not need to be repaid makes the effort well worthwhile.

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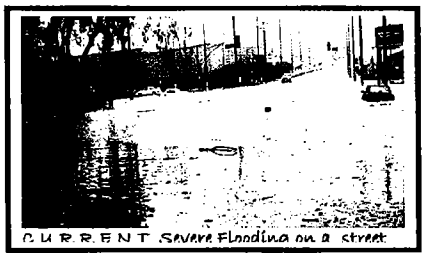
EXHIBIT 4

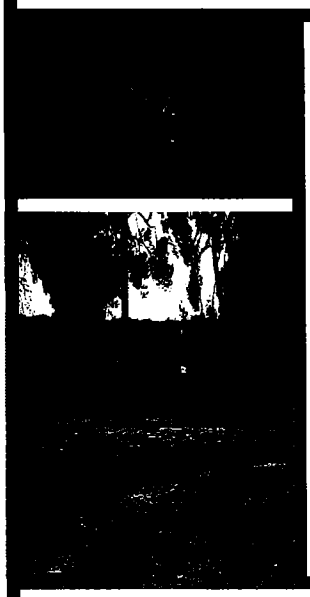
Sun Valley Watershed Management Plan

Sun Valley Watershed Management Plan

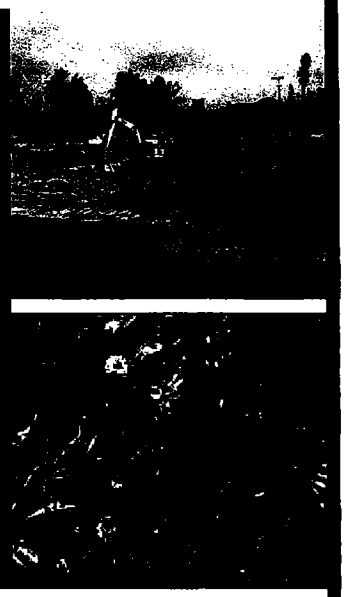
Its success will serve as a blueprint for the future.



This Plan is the first attempt in the nation to transform an established urban/industrial community (4.4 square miles) using various structural and nonstructural watershed management techniques and Best Management Practices (BMPs). This multipurpose project will provide solutions to flooding while retaining all storm water from the watershed, increasing water conservation, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities, and reducing storm water pollution.

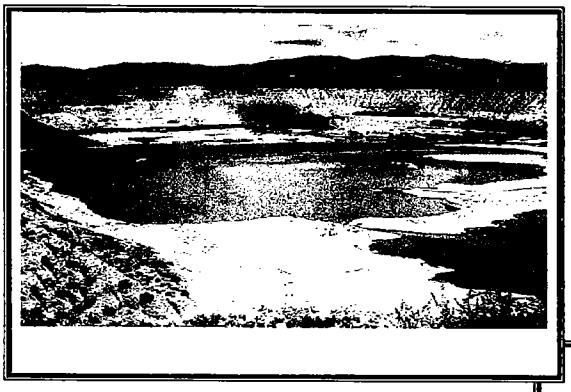


The project will solve the chronic flooding problem that has plagued the underserved community of Sun Valley for well over 40 years. In addition, the community will be revitalized through the creation of much needed recreational spaces, aesthetics, and wildlife habitat.



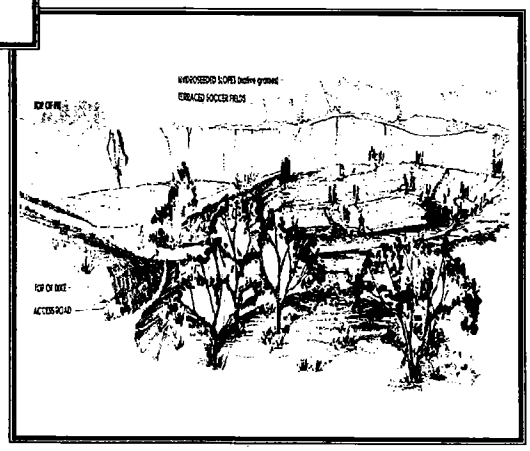
VISION

SHELDON PIT MULTIUSE PROJECT



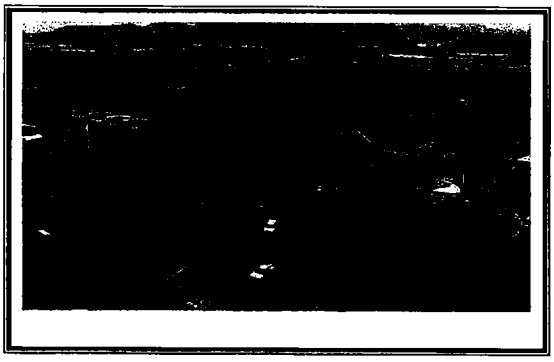
Current Conditions

- Limited Groundwater Recharge
- No Wildlife Habitat
- No Public Use Green Space
- No Recreational Facilities
- Upstream Areas Contribute to Downstream Flooding



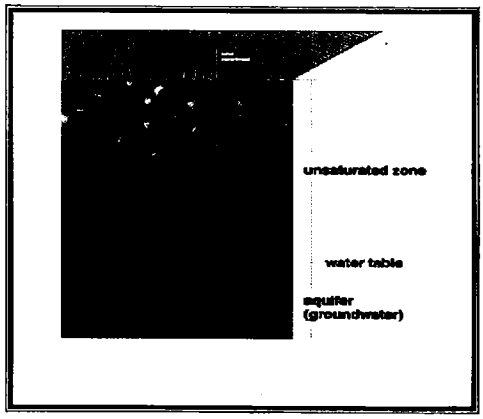
This project entails a massive water conservation effort by diverting water from Tujunga Wash into Sheldon Pit for groundwater recharge. Upstream storm water runoff would also be collected and treated for increased infiltration and flood mitigation purposes. The acquisition of this 138-acre pit has multiple benefits such as habitat enhancement and both active and passive recreational amenities to enhance the quality of life for the residents living in the community.

VALLEY STEAM PLANT MULTIUSE PROJECT



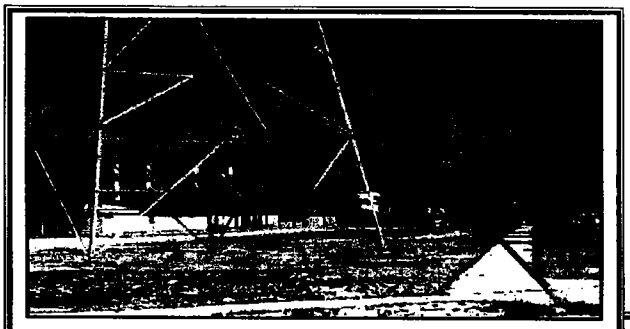
Current Conditions

- 155 Acres of Property Contributes to Downstream Flooding
- Water Pollution Conveyed Downstream
- No Water Conservation



This project will dramatically reduce downstream flooding by collecting, treating, and infiltrating the storm water runoff generated by this 155-acre site. Storm water runoff will be captured, conveyed through a treatment system to improve water quality, and pumped to the nearby Hansen Spreading Grounds for groundwater recharge.

POWERLINE EASEMENT MULTIUSE

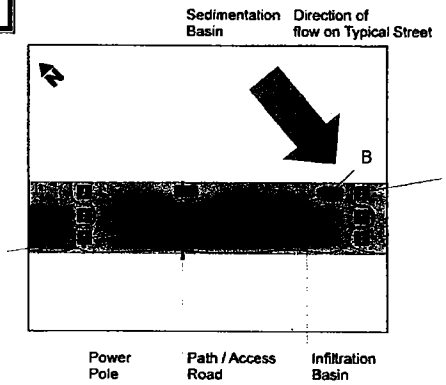


Today

Current Conditions

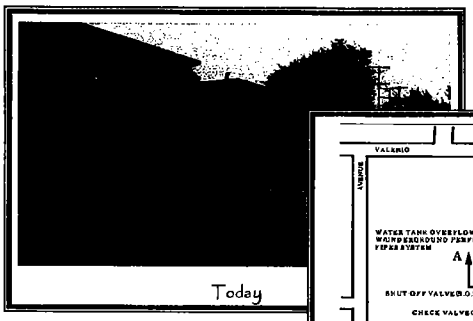
- No Public Use Green Space
- No Recreational Facilities
- Limited Groundwater Recharge
- No Flood Mitigation
- Water Pollution Conveyed Downstream

Located at the southern edge of the watershed, this project presents an opportunity to capture approximately 700 acre-ft of the watershed's storm water runoff each year before it is lost to a storm drain and pollutes the Los Angeles River. The project utilizes the area between powerline towers to treat and infiltrate the captured storm water and will provide much needed habitat and recreational enhancements. This is implemented with swales, sedimentation basins, and infiltration basins.

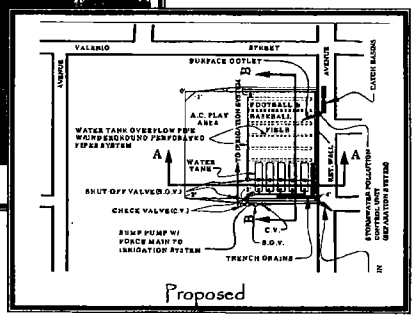


Proposed

MIDDLE SCHOOL MULTIUSE PROJECT



Today



Proposed

Current Conditions

- Limited Tree Shading
- Limited Groundwater Recharge
- Water Pollution Conveyed Downstream
- No Flood Mitigation

This project will convert an average school yard into a water conservation, flood mitigation, and water quality treatment multiuse site. Upstream runoff which will be captured, conveyed through an underground treatment and storage/infiltration system, will be stored and used to irrigate the school property. The project will provide increased educational opportunities along with additional strategic tree-planting/beautification opportunities to shade the air conditioning units and lower the energy consumption and consequently improving air quality. In addition, the project will provide flood protection for the community and the school kids can go to their school during rains.

EXHIBIT 5

Funding Workgroup Participants

FUNDING WORK PARTICIPANTS **SEPT. 22, 2005 MEETING**

Last Name	First Name	Title	Organization	Phone	E-Mail
Alexander	Thomas	Chief Deputy Director	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	(626) 458-4001	talex@ladpw.org
Bellomo	Joe	Design Engineer	Willdan	(805) 653-6597	jbellomo@willdan.com
Berko	Kwasi	Sanitary Engineering Associate I	Dept. of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation, Financial Mgt. Division	(213) 473-8079	kberko@san.lacity.org
Blum	Carl	Director, District 13	ASCE	(626) 287-4745	clblum@pacbell.net
Borboa	Gilbert	Water Resources Manager, Water Resources Division	City of Santa Monica	(310) 458-8230	gil-borboa@santa-monica.org
Bordas	Hector	Watershed Management Division	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	(626) 458-5947	hbordas@ladpw.org
Burgoyne	Dale	Finance Specialist IV	Department of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation	(213) 473-8052	dhburgoy@san.lacity.org
Christoffels	Mark	City Engineer	City of Long Beach Department of Public Works	(562) 570-6771	mark_christoffels@longbeach.gov
Clark	Margaret	Councilwoman	City of Rosemead	(626) 569-2100	
Cudiamat	Cris	Management Analyst	Dept. of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation, Financial Mgt. Division	(213) 473-8078	ccudiama@san.lacity.org
Dallman	Suzanne	Technical Director	Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council	(213) 229-9945	suzanne@lasgrwc.org
Del Real	Manuel	Assistant Deputy Director, Waterworks & Sewer Maintenance Division	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	(626) 300-3300	mreal@ladpw.org
DePoto	Bill	Watershed Manager, Watershed Mgt. Division	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	(626) 458-4313	bdepoto@ladpw.org
Drayse	Rebecca	T.R.E.E.S. Project Manager	TreePeople	(818) 623-4867	rdrayse@treepeople.org
Drennan	Michael	Co-Chair, Environment and Water Resources Technical Group	ASCE/Brown and Caldwell	(310) 309-4331	mdrennan@brwncald.com
Dymally	Edgar	Senior Environmental Specialist	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	(213) 217-5709	edymally@mwdh2o.com
Edgar Fox	Deborah	Executive Director	Think Earth Foundation	(310) 833-9309	d.edgarfox@cox.net
Edmiston	Joe	Executive Director	Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy	(310) 660-6210	edmiston@smmc.ca.gov
Ellis	Renee	Landscape Architect I	Architectural Div., Bureau of Engineering, Dept. of Public Works	(213) 485-2443	rellis@eng.lacity.org
Erb	Thomas	Director of Water Resources	Department of Water and Power, City of Los Angeles	(213) 367-0873	thomas.erb@ladwp.com
Farfsing	Ken	City Manager	City of Signal Hill	(562) 989-7300	kfarfsing@ci.signal-hill.ca.us
Faustinos	Belinda	Executive Officer	Rivers and Mountains Conservancy	(626) 458-4315	bfaustinos@rmc.ca.gov
Forester	Larry	Vice Mayor	City of Signal Hill	(562) 989-7300	lforester@ci.signal-hill.ca.us
Garcia	Norma Edith	Legislative Deputy	County of Los Angeles	(213) 974-4111	Ngarcia@lacbos.org
Gladbach	E.G. (Jerry)	President	Association of California Water Agencies	(916)441-4545	
Green	Sharon	Government Affairs Analyst	County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County	(562) 699-7411 ext 2503	sgreen@lacsd.org
Griset	Daniel	Member, Board of Directors	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	(213) 217-6000	dgriset@earthlink.net
Haworth	Joe	Information Officer	Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County	(562) 908-4288 ext 2302	jhaworth@lacsd.org
Hoag	Grant	Senior Consultant	Brown and Caldwell	(714) 689-4860	ghoag@brwncald.com
Home	Mark	Technical Director, Watershed Planning	EIP Associates	(310) 268-8132	mhome@eipassociates.com
Johnson	Brian	Manager, Environmental Programs Division	City of Santa Monica	(310) 458-2213	brian-johnson@santa-monica.org
Kharaghani	Shahram	Watershed Protection Division	City of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation	(323) 342-1582	sxkhragh@san.lacity.org
Kim	TJ	Principal Engineer	Brown and Caldwell	(310) 309-4335	tjkim@brwncald.com
Kraft	Eldon	Senior Planner	David Miller & Associates, Inc.	(703) 314-1939	ekraft@dma-us.com
Kuo	Frank	Capital Projects Manager, PW, Watershed Mgt. Division	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	(626) 458-4320	fkuo@ladpw.org
Lambros	Richard	Chief Executive Officer	Building Industry Association of Southern California (BIA)	(909) 396-9993	rlambros@biasc.org
Lee	J.J.	Professor in Civil & Environmental Engineering	University of Southern California	(213) 740-7865	jjlee@usc.edu
Lewis	Mike		Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality		mike@lewisandco.net
Lipkis	Andy	President	TreePeople	(818) 623-4848	allpkls@treepeople.org
Lund	Le Val	Professional Engineer	MLAB-ASCE	(323) 664-4432	lundasan@earthlink.net
Mundine	Joseph	Executive Officer	Department of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation	(213) 473-7999	jem@san.lacity.org
Nagel	Richard	Co-General Manager	West Basin Municipal Water District	(310) 660-6210	richn@wcbwater.org
Nissman	Susan		Co. of Los Angeles - Board of Supervisors	(213) 974-3333	snissman@bos.co.la.ca.us
Paulsen	Susan	Vice President	Flow Science	(626) 304-1134	spaulsen@flowscience.com
Perkins	Craig	Director, Environmental & Public Works Management	City of Santa Monica	(310) 458-8221	craig-perkins@ci.santa-monica.ca.us
Pestrella	Mark	Assistant Deputy Director, Watershed Mgt. Division	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	(626) 458-4300	mpestrel@ladpw.org
Plasky	Tim	VP Forward Planning & Entitlements	Victory Homes, G & D Construction, Inc.	(626) 447-3001	Tim@VictoryHomesInc.com
Serna	Marc	Manager of Engineering	West Basin Municipal Water District	(310) 660-6213	marcs@wcbwater.org
Stahl	James	Chief Engineer & General Manager	County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County	(562) 699-7411 ext 1501	jstahl@lacsd.org
Steele	Nancy	Executive Director	Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council	(213) 229-9945	nancy@lasgrwc.org
Tanowitz	Robert	Division Manager/Chief Management Analyst	Dept. of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation, Financial Mgt. Division	(213) 473-8049	rtanowitz@san.lacity.org
Urrunaga	Carlos	Environmental Scientist	California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region	(213) 620-2083	currunaga@waterboards.ca.gov
Villalobos	Ruth Bajza	Chief, Planning Division	US Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District	(213) 452-3783	Ruth.B.Villalobos@usace.army.mil
Washburn	Dennis	Mayor pro Tem	City of Calabasas	(818) 878-4225	washburnd1@aol.com
Weaver	Dave	Councilmember	City of Glendale	(818) 548-4844	dweaver@ci.glendale.ca.us
West	Tom	Senior Project Manager	RMC Water and Environment	(310) 460-3546	twest@rmcwater.com
Whelan	Brian	Senior Water Resources Planner	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	(213) 452-3795	bwhelan@spl.usace.army.mil
Wolfe	Don	Director	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	(626) 458-4002	dwolfe@ladpw.org
Young	Damien	Water Resources Business Unit	Department of Water & Power, City of Los Angeles	(213) 367-2172	Damien.Young@ladwp.com

Appendix F

LA Clean Water, Clean Beaches Measure

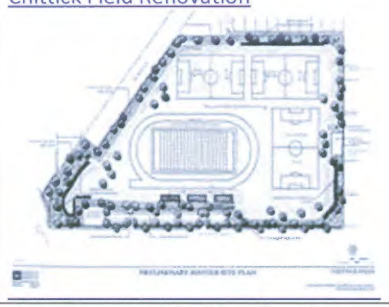
Potential Projects as Provided by Municipalities

City	Project Name	Status	Approximate Address	Description
Arcadia	Peck Water Conservation Improvement Project	Initial Design	5435 Peck Road, Arcadia, CA 91006, USA	The project will construct a pump station at Peck Road Park that that will divert water that would normally flow into the San Gabriel River into facilities for groundwater recharge. Sediment will be removed from the middle of San Gabriel basin, and water will flow freely between two drainage outlets at Santa Anita Wash.
Azusa	Forbes and Citrus Spreading Grounds Improvement Project	Initial Design	The Promenade, Azusa, CA 91702, USA	Spreading grounds are ponds that allow water to percolate into the ground and are usually linked to water treatment facilities and aquifers that capture, cleanse, and reuse urban runoff. This project would improve the capacity of the Forbes and Citrus spreading grounds and may also include the installation of native landscaping, shaded rest areas, and walking trails.
Carson	City of Carson Rain Garden Installation Project	Initial Design	22300-22412 Moneta Avenue, Carson, CA 90745, USA	This project would install rain gardens in 14 City of Carson parks. Rain gardens improve water quality because they naturally cleanse water as it is absorbed into the ground, and prevent polluted water from rushing along streets where it picks up trash and other toxic pollutants.
Carson	Del Amo Park Stormwater Management and Re-use Project	Initial Design	20211 Galway Avenue, Carson, CA 90746, USA	When it rains, polluted water flows to lift station pumps, where it is directed into concrete channels that lead directly to the ocean. This project would alter the lift station at Del Amo Park so that it pumps water into an underground flood control retention basin instead where the water will be treated and reused for irrigation of the park.
Carson	Diversion of Runoff from Santa Fe Ave.	Initial Design	21700-21734 Santa Fe Avenue, Carson, CA 90810, USA	When it rains, water flows to lift station pumps, which channel the flows directly to the ocean. This project would alter the lift station at Santa Fe Ave. so that polluted water will be redirected into underground storage tanks or re-use facilities where water can be reused for irrigation or drinking after further treatment.
Carson	Dominguez Channel Trash Reduction in the City of Carson	Initial Design	300 West Carson Street, Carson, CA 90745, USA	This project will install 1,800 automatic retracting screens in the storm drain catch basins in the City of Carson that will prevent trash from entering waterways at the street level. Weekly trash collection at street level by the existing city street sweeping contractor is fast and cost effective, and eliminates the need for more costly and difficult to maintain downstream trash control systems.
Carson	Loan and Grant Program for Water Re-use	Initial Design	701 East Carson Street, Carson, CA 90745, USA	This project would ensure that loans and grants will be available for existing buildings to store roof runoff in underground or above-ground cisterns for re-use.

City	Project Name	Status	Approximate Address	Description
Carson	Native Plant Restoration Project	Initial Design	566-586 East Albertoni Street, Carson, CA 90746, USA	This project will replace invasive plant species with native species in the 14-acre private marsh area of Albertoni Farms and Carson Harbor Village. The restored vegetation will cleanse water flows in the area and create a fuel modification zone—a strip of land that provides protection from vegetation fires.
Carson	Victoria Boulevard Stormwater Management Project	Initial Design	722-774 East Victoria Street, Carson, CA 90746, USA	This project will construct a water diversion and retention facility under the Cal State Dominguez Hills and Home Depot Center parking lot at the southeast corner of Victoria and Avalon Boulevard. Stormwater will be diverted underground and stored to prevent flooding. Once underground, the water will be treated and cleansed so it can be used for irrigation or for recharging groundwater.
Commerce	Rio Hondo Dog Park and Dry Weather Runoff Diversion	Initial Design	7878 Telegraph Road, Commerce, CA 90040, USA	This project will reduce these polluted water flows by providing a public dog park in the north corner of Downey, near Bell Gardens, Commerce, Montebello, and Pico Rivera. This park will be a multi-benefit facility that will detain and treat runoff that can later be used to irrigate the park or used for groundwater recharge.
Covina	Kahler-Russell Park Erosion Repair Project	Initial Design	735 North Glendora Avenue, Covina, CA 91724, USA	Along the north side of Kahler-Russell Park is the Charter Oak Wash, a flood management structure funnels water to the ocean during storms. This project will repair the erosion of the Charter Oak Wash as a preventative measure to protect local homes from damage, and to increase the effectiveness of the Wash.
Covina	Walnut Spreading Basin Improvement Project	Initial Design	799 East Workman Lane, Covina, CA 91723, USA	This project will improve the current stormwater management features of the Walnut Spreading Basin in West Covina. The basin will be cleaned out to improve the facilitation of groundwater recharge, which will in turn boost local water supplies.
Culver City	Baldwin Ave Rain Gardens	Built	4163 Baldwin Avenue, Culver City, CA 90232, USA	This completed project installed a rain garden on Baldwin Avenue north of Farragut Drive. The garden has improved community aesthetics and provides natural water treatment, and water infiltration into the ground.
Culver City	Ballona Creek Rain Garden	Initial Design	9463 Jefferson Boulevard, Culver City, CA 90232, USA	This Culver City project will expand the rain garden along Ballona Creek, which will complement the rain garden installed by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission. The rain garden will detain stormwater and naturally cleanse it of excess nutrients, and pollutants while providing aesthetic improvements and promoting infiltration.
Culver City	Culver City Low-Flow Diversion Project	Initial Design	9173-9225 Culver Boulevard, Culver City, CA 90232, USA	When people over-water their lawns, wash their cars, or hose down their driveways, excess water rushes along streets picking up toxic pollutants and trash before emptying into oceans and beaches. This project will install a low-flow diversion system that will redirect untreated urban runoff during dry-weather conditions from storm drain systems into the sanitary sewer system where it can be cleansed and treated before being discharged into

City	Project Name	Status	Approximate Address	Description
				the ocean.
Culver City	Modular Wetlands	Initial Design	8888 Venice Boulevard, Culver City, CA 90034, USA	Culver City will install modular wetlands along major boulevards throughout the city. Modular wetlands can be installed quickly and easily and combine natural and structural treatment methods for capturing, cleaning, and infiltrating stormwater.
Culver City	Rain Barrel Installation Program	Initial Design	3137 Roberts Avenue, Culver City, CA 90232, USA	Funding will be available to continue the 2011 Rain Barrel Installation Program that was a project of Culver City and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation. In 2011, Culver City gave the first 500 Culver City residents a professionally installed rain barrel for a suggested donation of $40 to cover material costs.
Culver City	Wet Weather Diversion System	Initial Design	9808 Venice Boulevard, Culver City, CA 90232, USA	Wet weather diversion systems are structures that redirect this polluted stormwater into treatment facilities where water is filtered and cleansed. Once treated, stormwater can be percolated into the ground where it recharges local groundwater supplies or reused for irrigation. These cost-effective structures improve water quality, increase Los Angeles County's water supply, and thereby decrease dependence on imported water.
Downey	Downey: Discovery Sports Complex	Built	13400-13418 Clark Avenue, Downey, CA 90706, USA	In 2009, an underground water detention basin was installed underneath the sports field at the Discovery Sports Complex. The detention basin now collects 80% of polluted water during a storm for storage and reuse.
Downey	Discovery Sports Complex: Additional Runoff Reduction Facility	Initial Design	12400 Columbia Way, Downey, CA 90242, USA	A proposed additional runoff reduction facility at the Sports Complex site will significantly increase the flood management, water treatment, and groundwater functions of this already successful multi-benefit project. The proposed infiltration system will accept flows from an area 8 times larger than current capacity, and will extend underneath the west soccer field, and two baseball diamonds.
Downey	Downey Catch Basin Inserts	Initial Design	8315 Firestone Boulevard, Downey, CA 90241, USA	To prevent polluted water and trash from entering our waterways, the City of Downey will install trash inserts at curbs to trap contaminants in an underground catch basin. The catch basins will be cleaned out regularly.
Gardena	Dominguez Channel Greenway	Initial Design	1212 West Cassidy Street, Gardena, CA 90248, USA	This project will develop a native-landscaped greenway, bikeway, and pedestrian trail along the north side of the Dominguez Channel, between Vermont Ave. and Normandie Ave. The greenway will provide flood

				protection and water quality improvement by restoring native, drought-tolerant plants that capture and filter runoff.
Gardena	Gardena Catch Basin Rehabilitation	Initial Design	15501 South Normandie Avenue, Gardena, CA 90247, USA	Rehabilitate approximately 200 catch basin filter systems of various sizes. Catch basin filters stop debris from exiting storm drains and being carried towards the ocean.
Gardena	Gardena Green Boulevards	Initial Design	15134-15198 South Vermont Avenue, Gardena, CA 90247, USA	This project will install stormwater quality and water infiltration infrastructure for at least three focus areas along the Vermont Ave. median from El Segundo Boulevard to Redondo Beach Boulevard. These projects could include: -Transitioning to permeable paving. Installing plant-filled swales, detention ponds, rain gardens, and water infiltration areas. -Developing underground infiltration facilities. -Preserving and increasing vegetative buffer areas. -Planting street trees. Installing green roofs.
Gardena	Rosecrans Recreational Center Storm Water Enhancements	Built	840 West 149th Street, Gardena, CA 90247, USA	Install smart irrigation, capture and treat runoff through redirection to bioswales and a vegetated retention basin. Install permeable paving for parking lots, an infiltration cistern, a synthetic soccer field, site grading, tree planting and landscaping.
Glendora	City of Glendora Park Improvement Projects	Initial Design	859 East Sierra Madre Avenue, Glendora, CA 91741, USA	This project will transform ordinary parks in the City of Glendora into storm management systems that are equipped to catch, clean, and reuse stormwater and urban runoff. Examples of green street infrastructure to be installed include: -Infiltration Galleries-underground perforated drains that collect water and percolate it into the ground, recharging groundwater. -Water detention basin--underground storage tanks where stormwater and

				irrigation overflow are filtered, held, and slowly released into the ground. -Rain Barrels-storage containers that collect rainwater that can be reused for irrigation. -Bioswales-depressed areas constructed to remove pollution from runoff and stormwater. Often covered -with native vegetation, mulch, soil, and rocks, bioswales slow water flow, and naturally filter water as it seeps into the ground. -Permeable walkways-areas that are paved with permeable materials such as pervious concrete or paving stones that allow stormwater to infiltrate into the soil below.
Glendora	City Parking Lot Improvement Project	Initial Design	701-6645 West Bennett Avenue, Glendora, CA 91741, USA	This project will redesign and resurface portions of city-owned parking lots to redirect water flow into underground treatment facilities. These facilities will capture, cleanse and reuse stormwater urban runoff.
Hermosa Beach	Green Belt Storm Water Infiltration	Design/ Construction	574 2nd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254, USA	The City of Manhattan Beach is constructing a stormwater infiltration project at Ardmore Ave and 2nd Street. The project will be complete by March 2013.
Hermosa Beach	South Park Subsurface Infiltration Gallery	Initial Design	277 Valley Drive, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254, USA	The project will treat 151 acres of stormwater in the City of Hermosa Beach. The project will divert and treat polluted stormwater and urban runoff for groundwater recharge.
Lawndale	Alondra Regional Park	Initial Design	16152-16198 Prairie Avenue, Lawndale, CA 90260, USA	The park will feature a vegetated swale and daylighted stream that will remove nutrients and pollutants from street runoff. A large biofiltration field will store water for flood management, improve water quality, occasionally serve as a recreational field, and provide native habitat for wildlife.
Long Beach	Chittick Field Renovation 	Design/ Construction	1815-1805 North Gaviota Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90806, USA	Chittick Field was originally developed in 1936 as a flood detention basin to collect and pump stormwater flows to downstream facilities. The project will install water measures such as a low flow drainage system, a pump station, and stormwater treatment devices to improve the efficiency of the detention basin.
Long Beach	Dominguez Gap Wetlands Projects	Built	Los Angeles River Bicycle Path, Long Beach, CA 90805, USA	Once a barren and lifeless drainage ditch off-limits to the public, Dominguez Gap is now 50 acres of wetlands that can treat about 2 million gallons of stormwater and urban runoff every day. The restored wetlands removes up to 80% of pollutants before water can enters the Los Angeles River and also recharges groundwater at a rate that meets the water demands of 3,600 people each year.

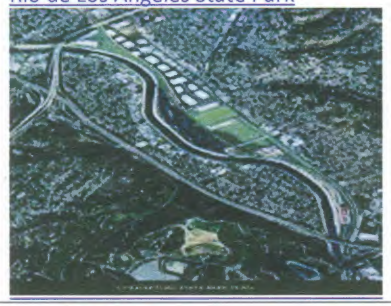
Long Beach	I-710 Urban Runoff Recycling Facility	Initial Design	Long Beach Freeway, Long Beach, CA 90810, USA	This project will prevent polluted runoff from entering the Los Angeles River by capturing and treating overflow from the I-710 Corridor. The proposed facility will collect and treat up to 720,000 gallons of urban runoff per day, and will recycle the treated stormwater to irrigate parks and landscaping along the I-710 Corridor.
Long Beach	Los Cerritos Channel - Low Flow Diversion	Initial Design	1272-1278 East Spring Street, Long Beach, CA 90807, USA	This project will construct a system that will divert low stormwater flows from an existing storm drain outfall into the Spring Street sanitary sewer lift station for treatment. This project will prevent polluted summer non-stormwater flows and "first flush" storm low flows from draining into the Los Cerritos Channel and ultimately into Alamitos Bay.
Long Beach	San Gabriel River Stormwater Devices and Low Flow Diversion System	Initial Design	San Gabriel River Bike Trail, Long Beach, CA 90803, USA	This project will install full-capture trash devices in catch basins along the San Gabriel River, Coyote Creek, and the Los Cerritos Channel to prevent trash and other harmful debris from entering the River. The project will also install Low Flow Diversion devices that divert polluted water into treatment facilities.
Long Beach	Stormwater Miracle Park	Design/ Construction	Chestnut Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90802, USA	The development of Stormwater Miracle Park will turn an underused industrial lot into open space and a habitat for native plants and animals, while incorporating stormwater best management practices to treat and reuse stormwater. The project will improve the current capacity of the flood basin by installing a bioswale and wetlands onsite to capture and treat stormwater flows that will later be used for irrigation or groundwater recharge.
Los Angeles	Albion Dairy Stormwater Park	Design/ Construction	251-299 East Jetty Street, Los Angeles, CA 90031, USA	The 6-acre site is located next to Downey Park in the community of Lincoln Heights. For decades this site operated as a distribution and warehouse center for the Swiss Dairy Company. Now, it will become a public park and stormwater treatment area.
Los Angeles	Ballona Creek Water Quality and Beach Improvement & Beneficial Use Project	Initial Design	5300 Alla Road, Los Angeles, CA 90066, USA	This project will install a low-flow diversion system that will treat all dry-weather urban runoff and some stormwater runoff that flows through the Ballona Creek watershed that would otherwise contaminate our beaches and oceans. The low-flow diversion will include coarse screens, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection.
Los Angeles	Del Rey Lagoon Water Quality Improvement Project	Initial Design	6660 Esplanade Street, Los Angeles, CA 90293, USA	This project will improve water quality by reducing the amount of pathogen generating bacteria in the Del Rey Lagoon and surrounding water bodies, such as the Santa Monica Bay and Dockweiler Beach. Project components include vegetated swales, irrigation system retrofits, and drainage modifications that, combined, are designed to capture, retain, and treat

				runoff from adjacent residential, transportation, and landscaping uses. Existing irrigation systems will be retrofitted with a smart irrigation system to reduce excessive irrigation runoff, thereby conserving water and reducing flow. Catch basins and storm drains will be installed to capture and divert excess wet-weather flow in the sewer system.
Los Angeles	Echo Park Lake Restoration Project	Design/ Construction	Grand View Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90012, USA	This multi-benefit project will clean up Echo Park Lake and put in place measures to prevent future degradation from polluted inflows and sediment: -Drain the lake -Remove contaminated sediments -Repair or replace storm drainpipes to prevent water loss -Redesign outlet vault structure -Repair emergency outlet valve and retrofit with remote operation -Reconstruct concrete inlet structure -Install hydrodynamic device to capture sediments, trash, and oil and grease -Repair interior lining of basin -Install sediment forebay to remove sediments from inflow -Increase lake edge support; install aeration unit -Install circulation system -Implement ultraviolet disinfection treatment system -Reintroduce ecological elements. -Replace non-native vegetation with native plants -Reconstruct walking paths with permeable surfaces -Install trash capture inserts in storm drains -Install smart irrigation -Provide education signage and kiosks.
Los Angeles	Elmer Avenue Green Street Project	Built	6001 Elmer Avenue, North Hollywood, CA 91606, USA	Elmer Avenue has been retrofitted with a variety of rainwater harvesting techniques that filter water back into the ground. This one city block now catches, cleans, and reuses rain and stormwater from a 40-acre area upstream and recharges groundwater at a rate that would satisfy the water demands of 90 people in a year.
Los Angeles	Elmer Paseo Green Alley	Built	6001 Elmer Avenue, North Hollywood, CA 91606, USA	In October 2012, crews began a renovation of a blighted and unsafe alleyway. Elmer Paseo Alley will now capture between 1.3 to 1.9 gallons of water annually, provide a safe and comfortable pedestrian connection, and reduce localized temperatures, and raise community awareness about the local watershed.

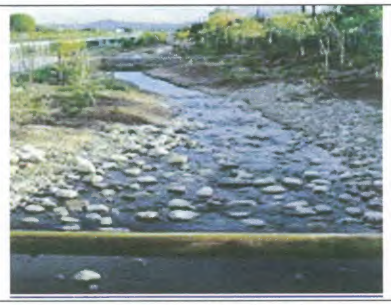
Los Angeles	Freeway Runoff Infiltration Demonstration Project	Initial Design	Christopher Columbus Transcontinental Highway, Los Angeles, CA 90016, USA	This project will prevent polluted runoff from Santa Monica Freeway from entering storm drain systems and coastal waters with low-flow diversion technology. Polluted water will be diverted from the Freeway into treatment structures where water will be cleansed and then released for groundwater recharge.
Los Angeles	Garvanza Park Stormwater Capture	Design/ Construction	501-599 North Ave 63, Los Angeles, CA 90042, USA	The project will capture and detain stormwater from an existing stormdrain into Garvanza Park for infiltration and irrigation use. The elements include the installation of a pretreatment device for sediment and trash, followed by a large water detention gallery for water recycling and infiltration.
Los Angeles	Hansen Dam Recreational Area Parking Lot and Wetlands Restoration Project	Initial Design	11770 Foothill Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 91342, USA	This project is designed to retrofit the parking lot for the Hansen Dam recreational area with the goal of reducing runoff impacts and to restoring natural wetlands. The project may include bioswales, sand filtration systems, wetlands restoration, and the resurfacing of portions of the parking lot.
Los Angeles	Hollywood Pedestrian Alley Infiltration Project	Initial Design	1617 Cosmo Street, Los Angeles, CA 90028, USA	This project will convert an existing alley in the Hollywood area to a pedestrian alley with permeable pavers.
Los Angeles	Humboldt Stormwater Greenway Project Phase 1	Design/ Construction	2100-2198 Humboldt Street, Los Angeles, CA 90031, USA	This project will run along Humboldt Street from Avenue 26 to Los Angeles River. The Humboldt Stormwater Greenway is located in Lincoln Heights, at Humboldt St. between Avenues 18 and 19. This project will "daylight" an existing waterway that has been buried and turn it into an open recreational space as well as a storm water management facility.

Los Angeles	LA Zoo Green Parking Lot 	Built	Crystal Springs Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90027, USA	The project redesigned and resurfaced the Los Angeles Zoo parking lot to mitigate stormwater runoff and related effects. Enhancements included permeable pavement, grassy swales, native trees, and other vegetation.
Los Angeles	Lake Machado Ecosystem – Water Quality and Habitat Improvement 	Design/ Construction	26001-26067 South Vermont Avenue, Harbor City, CA 90710, USA	This project will restore native riparian habitats to safeguard endangered species while also improving water quality in the area. The project will include: sediment removal, wetland restoration, installation of outlet device, daylighting storm drains, removing hardened drainage inlets, installation of aeration system, trash capture devices, runoff treatment, habitat improvements, repair trash screens, install pump and pipe system, and the installation of Low Impact Development infrastructure.
Los Angeles	Los Angeles River Headwater Project 	Design/ Construction	6901 Owensmouth Avenue, Canoga Park, CA 91303, USA	This project is located where Bell Creek and Calabasas Creek join in Canoga Park, just east of the football field at Canoga Park High School. The project will add a mile-long greenway, interpretative signage, walking paths, and seating areas along the Los Angeles River and will include a maintenance bridge across Browns Creek.

Los Angeles	Manchester Neighborhood Greenway Project	Initial Design	9100-9128 South Flower Street, Los Angeles, CA 90003, USA	This project will construct a safe and maintainable pedestrian path between Figuoera and 110 FWY on-ramp from Manchester to W. 875th street, which will infiltrate rainfall and stormwater from the adjacent areas. Elements will include: infiltration swales with sub-drain, permeable paving, vandal-resistant concrete billboard lighting, planting of native shade trees, an 11 foot wide tree well and a cobble swale.
Los Angeles	Mar Vista Parkway Greening	Initial Design	3309 McLaughlin Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90066, USA	This project will modify existing parkways in a Mar Vista neighborhood with green infrastructure that is designed to capture, treat, and reuse stormwater and urban runoff. Infrastructure may include: bioretention planters, curb cuts, drought-tolerant vegetation, permeable pavement, and drywells.
Los Angeles	Mar Vista Recreation Center Rainwater Capture & Reuse	Design/ Construction	11421-11649 Palms Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90066, USA	This project will capture rainwater from the Mar Vista Recreation Center roof and recycle it for use on landscaping, or for flushing toilets.
Los Angeles	Milton Street Park and Green Street Project—Ballona Creek	Initial Design	4998 Mascagni Street, Los Angeles, CA 90066, USA	The Milton Street Park and Green Street Project will convert a conventional street along the Ballona Creek Bike Path, into a pedestrian-friendly avenue that will aid in stormwater management.
Los Angeles	North Hollywood Alley Stormwater Capture	Initial Design	18721 Hatteras Street, Los Angeles, CA 91356, USA	Improvement to the Oxnard St. to Hatteras St. alleys in North Hollywood to allow for better stormwater retention, a more pleasant pedestrian experience, and the reduction of the urban heat-island effect.
Los Angeles	Obregon Park	Initial Design	133 North Sunol Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90063, USA	This project will capture excess stormwater flows for treatment and infiltration into the ground where it will replenish groundwater supplies that can be pumped up and used for drinking water after further treatment.
Los Angeles	Oros Green Street	Built	1046 Blake Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90031, USA	The first Green Street in Los Angeles, this pilot project re-designed a residential street and park to manage storm and dry weather urban runoff in an environmentally sustainable way. This project demonstrates that best management practices (BMPs) based on biological treatment and filtration processes can be used to meet water quality objectives when distributed throughout mixed land use neighborhoods in urban settings.

Los Angeles	Parking Grove in El Sereno	Initial Design	4659 Richelieu Terrace, Los Angeles, CA 90032, USA	Construct a parking lot with permeable surface to capture, treat, store runoff and convey to irrigate ball fields at El Sereno Recreation Center. Future studies should confirm ability to reuse roof water from the Recreation Center.
Los Angeles	Rio de Los Angeles State Park 	Built	1801-1803 North San Fernando Road, Los Angeles, CA 90065, USA	Rio de Los Angeles State Park and nearby Los Angeles State Historic Park serve the local communities and provide a unique State Park experience. Rio de Los Angeles (LA River) State Park is surrounded by industrial and residential areas, yet restoration of the park's natural river wetlands allows a serene opportunity to all visitors who enjoy hiking trails, being surrounded by native plants and viewing returning wildlife.
Los Angeles	Riverdale Greenstreet	Initial Design	2314 Riverdale Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90031, USA	The project will demonstrate the use of storm water planters to treat and infiltrate stormwater runoff, thereby providing water quality and flood control benefits. A primary goal is to create a model for a new standard of residential street design, ultimately reducing the amount of stormwater and urban runoff from streets.
Los Angeles	Salazar Park	Initial Design	3864 Whittier Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90023, USA	This proposed project would construct a dry detention basin at Salazar Park to divert and capture polluted stormwater flows for treatment and for recharging groundwater supplies.
Los Angeles	San Fernando Valley: Tuxford Green	Built	11500-11504 Tuxford Street, Sun Valley, CA 91352, USA	For years people using the intersection of Tuxford Street and San Fernando Road experienced hundreds of floods, even after light rains. The system that district engineers put in place to prevent these floods has a capacity to treat 50,000 gallons of water and can also treat and store water for irrigation and groundwater recharge.
Los Angeles	Santa Monica Freeway Stormwater Infiltration Project	Initial Design	2399 South Centinela Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90064, USA	A stormwater infiltration facility at Centinela Avenue and Pico Boulevard will gather runoff from the freeway and surface streets. The facility will have a 100,000 gallon capacity to store treated water that will later be used for groundwater recharge.
Los Angeles	South Los Angeles Wetlands Park	Design/ Construction	301-399 East 55th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90011, USA	Construction of a wetlands park to improve stormwater quality, treatment, reuse, irrigation, valuable green space, public recreation and education and habitat.

Los Angeles	Strathern Pit Multiuse Project	Design/ Construction	8228-8332 Tujunga Avenue, North Hollywood, CA 91605, USA	The project proposes to convert a 45 acre site including a gravel pit, which is being used as an inert landfill, into a multi-purpose facility for water treatment and flood prevention. The projects will improve stormwater quality by treating storm flows through constructed wetlands and removing pollutants in captured urban stormwater runoff, while also providing flood protection.
Los Angeles	Ted Watkins Park	Initial Design	1335 East 103rd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90002, USA	The proposed project will divert stormwater flows into a constructed infiltration basin on a County Park facility.
Los Angeles	Temescal Canyon Park Rainwater Capture & Reuse	Design/ Construction	174-222 Temescal Canyon Road, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272, USA	This project will include the installation of various types of green infrastructure, including hydrodynamic separators and underground detention tanks, to reduce bacteria and other pollutants from storm drain runoff in Temescal Canyon. This project will assist the City in complying with the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Wet Weather Bacteria limits. Treated storm water runoff will be re-used for irrigation.
Los Angeles	Tujunga Wash Greenway & Stream Restoration	Built	10301-10555 Wentworth Street, Sunland, CA 91040, USA	The Tujunga Wash Greenway and Stream Restoration Project were established to create a 1.6-mile naturalized stream course on the bank of the channel. The greenway allows for groundwater recharge and enhances water quality. In fact, the stream captures enough water to provide more than 760 families with drinking water for an entire year. About 325,000 gallons of water a day now replenish groundwater aquifers.

				
Los Angeles	University Park Neighborhood Rain Gardens	Initial Design	3234-3290 East Valley Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90033, USA	This City of Los Angeles will install rain gardens to capture and infiltrate dry weather and a portion of stormwater runoff from streets in the University Park neighborhood surrounding the University of Southern California. A total of thirty five (35) rain gardens will be constructed. Rain gardens will be vegetated with native species. The applicant will work with SMBRC, and the L.A. Regional Water Quality Control Board to develop comprehensive monitoring plan to quantify pollutants removed, runoff captured and impacts to groundwater.
Los Angeles	Van Ness and Slauson Infiltration Water Quality and Supply Project	Design/ Construction	2199 West Slauson Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90047, USA	The project will install a total of 32 rain gardens and dry wells that will improve overall water quality across three watersheds and recharge local groundwater supplies that can be pumped up for drinking after further treatment. Polluted stormwater from the 465-acre watershed area will be diverted by gravity away from main waterways, into vegetated rain gardens that will naturally remove pollutants. The water will then be conveyed through underground chambers to separate out floatables, trash, heavy sediment, etc. A floating absorbent "blanket" in each chamber will remove contaminates. Finally, the water will be sent to dry wells for infiltration into the ground, which will remove any remaining contaminants and recharge groundwater supplies.
Los Angeles	Vermont Avenue Storm Water Capture and Green Street Beautification Project	Design/ Construction	6753-6799 South Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90044, USA	The project, located along Vermont Avenue between Gage Avenue and Florence Avenue, will improve water quality, provide flood control, and beautify the community. It also has the potential to serve as an example for the design of future street-improvement projects city-wide. The project will capture and treat street runoff that can be polluted by excess fertilizer, motor oil, pet waste, and other harmful pollutants. This project will treat runoff with vegetated swales, tree well watering devices, and infiltration swales. If left untreated, polluted street runoff will find its way into Los Angeles County waterways polluting our water supplies, beaches, and oceans.
Los Angeles	Westchester Stormwater Infiltration	Initial Design	6550 West 80th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90045, USA	This project will include the installation of various types of green infrastructure, including hydrodynamic separators, infiltration basins and underground detention tanks, to reduce bacteria and other pollutants from storm drain runoff in North Westchester. This project will assist the City in

				complying with the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Wet Weather Bacteria limits.
Los Angeles	Westminster Dog Park Stormwater Enhancement	Initial Design	110-160 Clubhouse Avenue, Venice, CA 90291, USA	The Westminster Dog Park Stormwater BMP Project treats runoff from the park, An area of 2.8 acres owned and operated by the City of Los Angeles, DRP. The runoff is highly contaminated by fecal material and could cause bacteria count exceedances in runoff during wet-weather periods. The project includes the installation of a shallow vegetated swale for pretreatment of the surface runoff, a sedimentation forebay for removal of sediments, and modular constructed wetlands to treat on-site runoff before discharging it into the storm drains.
Los Angeles	Westside Park Stormwater Greenway	Initial Design	5782-5898 Smiley Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90016, USA	The project will capture and detain stormwater from an existing storm drain in Westside Park and an adjunct power line easement; The water will be used for irrigation. Project elements include the installation of a pretreatment device for sediment and trash, and followed by a large water detention gallery.
Los Angeles	Woodman Ave. Multi-Beneficial Stormwater Capture Project	Initial Design	7378-7398 Woodman Avenue, Van Nuys, CA 91405, USA	The objective of the Woodman Infiltration Project is not only recharging the groundwater, but to assist in compliance with the Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) for the City of Los Angeles. One of the primary objectives for this project location, therefore, is to remove pathogens from the existing Woodman stormdrain. An additional benefit to implementing this project is the removal of other pollutants of concern such as, trash, oil and grease, metals, pesticides.
Lynwood	Biofiltration Tree Well Installation Project	Initial Design	11200-11244 Bullis Road, Lynwood, CA 90262, USA	This city-wide project in Lynwood will install biofiltration tree wells that will absorb some stormwater flows before they reach downstream catch basins. The tree wells are the first line of defense against flooding, and will redirect the water into the ground where it will be naturally filtered and allowed to recharge groundwater supplies.
Lynwood	Carnation Park Biofiltration Project	Design/ Construction	2999 Los Flores Boulevard, Lynwood, CA 90262, USA	Carnation park is a traffic circle located at the intersection of State Street and Los Flores Boulevard. This project will turn the traffic circle into a 1.8 acre landscaped bioretention basin that will collect stormwater, provide flood protection, improve aesthetics, and be used for recreational space.
Lynwood	Fernwood Water Improvement Park	Initial Design	5231-5299 Fernwood Avenue, Lynwood, CA 90262, USA	Fernwood Water Improvement Park is a multi-benefit project that will serve disadvantaged communities in the city of Lynwood while meeting water quality objectives. The park will feature stormwater improvement elements such as vegetated areas where stormwater is allowed to seep into the ground and recharge groundwater.
Lynwood	Lilita Street and Sue Avenue Street Stormwater Quality Improvement Project	Initial Design	3880 Lilita Street, Lynwood, CA 90262, USA	This project will convert the median islands at Lilita Street and Sue Avenue, and the surrounding street area, into a flood management and water treatment system. The area will be covered in pervious materials that allow stormwater to seep into the ground for treatment and reuse instead of being flushed away via storm drains.
Lynwood	Los Flores Median Improvements	Initial Design	2982 Los Flores Boulevard, Lynwood, CA	The 20 foot-wide median located on Los Flores Boulevard, west of State Street, will be reduced to 2-3 feet wide, and will be converted into a bioretention basin that will improve water quality, and reduce flooding. The

			90262, USA	street will be redesigned to redirect stormwater flows toward the median and will accommodate parking stalls that will be resurfaced with porous material that allows for water capture and treatment.
Lynwood	Outfall Monitoring	Initial Design	5500-5514 Imperial Highway, Lynwood, CA 90262, USA	Outfalls are facilities where water in stormwater pipes flow into natural water bodies. This project will monitor the water quality at outfall sites and will serve an important research function by providing The City of Pico Rivera and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District with water quality data.
Lynwood	Parking Lot Improvements	Initial Design	3721 Platt Avenue, Lynwood, CA 90262, USA	Lynwood will install an underground bioretention system under city-owned parking lots. This project will add landscaped bioretention basins are designed to collect stormwater and slowly release it into the ground, effectively increasing local water supplies while also improving parking lot aesthetics.
Lynwood	Pocket Park Projects	Built	3956 Magnolia Avenue, Lynwood, CA 90262, USA	Pocket parks will be used not only for recreation, but will also include bioretention basins, which are structures that detain stormwater and repurpose it for groundwater recharge. The City of Lynwood has recently completed construction of 4 pocket parks and an additional 3-4 sites are being considered.
Malibu	Broad Beach Stormwater Management	Initial Design	Western Malibu, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	This project will overhaul the The Broad Beach stormwater system to address flooding problems and the endangerment of coastal habitat by urban runoff. The project may include infrastructure projects such as: -Replacing small connector storm drains with large connector pipes. -Creating new storm drain systems with more inlets. -Replacing undersized catch basins. -Transitioning to permeable paving. Installing plant-filled swales, detention ponds, rain gardens, and water infiltration areas. -Developing underground infiltration facilities. -Preserving and increasing vegetative buffer areas. -Planting street trees. Installing green roofs.
Malibu	Carbon Canyon Stormwater Management	Initial Design	3714 Carbon Canyon Road, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	This project will overhaul the stormwater system in the Carbon Canyon Watershed to prevent flooding of the Pacific Coast Highway, and to protect habitats from the impacts of urban runoff. The project would install traditional and green infrastructure such as: -Transitioning to permeable paving. Installing plant-filled swales, detention ponds, rain gardens, and water infiltration areas.

				-Developing underground infiltration facilities. -Preserving and increasing vegetative buffer areas. -Planting street trees. Installing green roofs.
Malibu	Charmlee Park Environmental Discovery Center	Initial Design	Carmichael Road, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	This nature center will provide environmental education related to the Santa Monica Mountains ecology. Visitors would have the opportunity to view on-site rainwater storage cisterns and indoor recycled water use, as well as outdoor stormwater capture and infiltration projects.
Malibu	Enhanced On-site Wastewater System Inventory	Initial Design	7257 Birdview Avenue, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	The Malibu Integrated Wastewater Management Information System (IWIMS) database tracks on-site wastewater systems, like septic systems, across the city. The systems will be expanded to include systems installed before 1991, and the data gathered will be used to improve user education and operating techniques.
Malibu	Historical Ecology of Malibu Coastal Watersheds	Initial Design	29359 Bluewater Road, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	Educators will research and report on the historical ecology of the Malibu Coastal Watersheds to evaluate past human impacts, and bring the past to life. The project will help both residents and visitors appreciate the importance of protecting natural resources in Malibu and beyond.
Malibu	La Costa Stormwater Management	Initial Design	3805 Las Flores Canyon Road, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	The stormwater system in the Las Flores Creek Watershed needs additional capacity to prevent flooding of the Pacific Coast Highway, and to protect habitats from the impacts of urban runoff. This project would use Low Impact Development (LID) practices such as installing water storage and reuse facilities, permeable paving, bioswales, infiltration facilities, green roofs, and tree wells to improve stormwater management.
Malibu	Malibu ASBS Implementation Project	Initial Design	26044 Pacific Coast Highway, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) are protected coastal areas created to preserve local marine ecosystems and thus ASBS regulations prohibit pollutants from entering the ocean through private drains, municipal storm drains, and natural streams. This project will support marine support assessments required to meet ASBS objectives. The City of Malibu will implement strategies to reduce or eliminate urban runoff.
Malibu	Malibu Civic Center Linear Park Expansion	Initial Design	23601-23699 Pacific Coast Highway, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	This project will construct a safe, permeable walking path from Webb Way to Malibu Canyon Road that will be flanked with landscaping such as plant-filled swales, detention ponds, rain gardens, water infiltration areas, vegetative buffer areas, and street trees. These structures will convey water, allow for infiltration, clean water, provide habitat, and reduce urban heat island effects.

Malibu	Malibu Civic Center Vacant Land Acquisition	Initial Design	23500-23616 Civic Center Way, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	The City of Malibu plans to acquire vacant commercial properties from willing sellers in the Malibu Civic Center area in order to reduce impacts from commercial development.
Malibu	Malibu Clean Water In Your Neighborhood	Initial Design	23410 Civic Center Way, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	Bring the Clean Water message close to home through the classroom. Adapt a program to meet the new state Environmental Education Initiatives for K-12 by creating a curriculum that focuses on what children can observe in their own neighborhood.
Malibu	Malibu Equestrian Center Runoff Program	Initial Design	6225 Merritt Drive, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	This project will install green infrastructure to capture and treat runoff from the riding rings and parking lot of the Malibu Equestrian Center. Such infrastructure may include, permeable paving, bioswales, detention ponds, rain gardens, water infiltration, planting trees, underground infiltration facilities, and vegetative buffer areas. Horse owners will also be educated on how to maintain confined animal spaces and improve water quality in coastal streams.
Malibu	Malibu Legacy Park Water Quality Management Program: Expanded Projects	Initial Design	23501-23599 Pacific Coast Highway, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	To date, the City of Malibu has constructed a detention system that will expand the capacity of a stormwater treatment facility. These projects will divert additional stormwater from the existing flood control structures into vegetated wetlands to capture and treat urban and stormwater runoff.
Malibu	Malibu Recycled Water Delivery Project	Initial Design	23701-23835 Civic Center Way, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	This project will install infrastructure to deliver water from the planned Malibu Civic Center Reclamation Facility to the Civic Center area. This will reduce demand on potable water supplies, and decrease urban runoff.
Malibu	Malibu Road/Malibu Colony Stormwater Management	Initial Design	23626 Malibu Colony Road, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	This project will improve water quality in the Malibu Lagoon by reducing runoff and debris in the areas that drain into the lagoon. This project will install green infrastructure that will capture, treat, and reuse stormwater flows from the Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu Colony Plaza, and Malibu Road.
Malibu	Paradise Cove Pretreatment and System Upgrade	Initial Design	28128 Pacific Coast Highway, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	This project would increase the capacity of existing systems at Paradise Cove by providing wastewater pre-treatment pollutant removal and storage capacity. The systems would also be evaluated for upgrade potential.

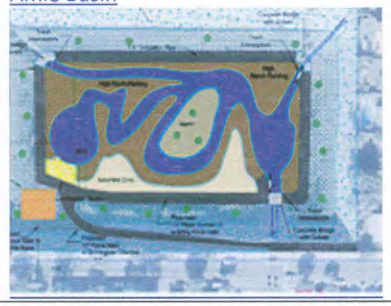
Malibu	Point Dume Area Land Acquisition	Initial Design	29317 Cliffside Drive, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	The City of Malibu plans to acquire vacant properties from willing sellers in the Point Dume area in order to further regional water quality objectives.
Malibu	Topanga Beach Stormwater Management	Initial Design	18601-18609 Pacific Coast Highway, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	This project will use low-flow diversion technology to divert polluted runoff into structures that will filter and cleanse water, before discharging it into the ocean. The result will be cleaner water, cleaner beaches, and better wildlife and public health.
Malibu	Trancas Canyon Park Stormwater Management	Initial Design	6050 Trancas Canyon Road, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	This project will capture stormwater in underground tanks or basins where it will be treated and reused for irrigation, or allowed to seep into the ground. This project would reduce the amount of water needed to maintain Trancas Canyon Park by replacing the sports field's natural turf with synthetic turf.
Malibu	Trancas Creek and Lagoon Restoration	Initial Design	5975 Trancas Canyon Road, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	An area at Trancas Creek will become engineered wetlands that will be an open space where water is held, filtered and naturally cleansed. This project will restore native vegetation, improve water quality, aid flood management efforts, and provide public recreation space.
Malibu	Trancas Creek and Lagoon Trail	Initial Design	30315 Morning View Drive, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	This project would construct a trail from Malibu West's residential areas to Malibu Coastal trails and Morningview Drive. The trail will be equipped with water green infrastructure that will naturally filter, store, and treat stormwater. Green infrastructure includes structures such as bio-swales, rain gardens, and permeable pavers.
Malibu	Trancas Watersheds Integrated Water Plan	Initial Design	30601-30699 Pacific Coast Highway, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Malibu, CA 90265, USA	As new residential and commercial buildings are developed in the area of Trancas Canyon, the area will need a water management plan to ensure water quality and supply and to prevent flooding. This project will research the water needs of the community and plan for improvements in water management infrastructure.
Manhattan Beach	Manhattan Beach Full Capture Devices	Initial Design	3515 Highland Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266, USA	The City of Manhattan Beach is gearing up to install full capture devices in all catch basins starting in 2014. These devices will capture all trash and other debris before it is carried out towards the ocean.
Manhattan Beach	Manhattan Strand 28th Street Subsurface Infiltration Trench	Initial Design	Marvin Braude Bike Trail, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266, USA	This project will treat runoff from Manhattan Beach by installing a treatment system that will divert water flows away from outfalls and storm drains into treatment structures. Once the system treats the water, it will direct the water into underground trenches where it will replenish

				groundwater supplies.
Marina del Rey	Oxford Retention Basin Multi-Use Enhancement Project	Initial Design	4226-4242 Admiralty Way, Marina del Rey, CA 90292, USA	The Oxford Retention Basin Enhancement project will improve the flood control functions of the basin and also provide an attractive public space for recreation while improving water quality and providing wildlife habitat. The project will replace contaminated soils and sediment, plant native-species, install a vegetated berm, and improve existing catch basins.
Montebello	Northside Drive Median	Initial Design	Northside Drive, Montebello, USA	The proposed project will convert an existing traffic median into an underground water detention system that will capture excess stormwater flows for treatment and infiltration into the ground.
Norwalk	Splash Pad, Spray Park, and Wading Pool Retrofits	Initial Design	11809-11821 Rosecrans Avenue, Norwalk, CA 90650, USA	This project will retrofit these recreational water structures so that they will be able to collect used water instead of allowing it to rush along streets, picking up trash as it heads out towards beaches and the ocean. After treatment, the collected water will be reused for irrigation or for recharging groundwater.
Palos Verdes Estates	Agua Amarga Lunada Canyon Habitat Restoration	Initial Design	Lunada Canyon Trail, Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274, USA	This restoration project will improve Santa Monica Bay water quality and safeguard a number of federally endangered species. The project will replace invasive plants with 10 acres of riparian and coastal sage scrub, and install 2 acres of cactus scrub at Agua Amarga Reserve.
Palos Verdes Estates	South Coast Botanic Gardens	Initial Design	26300 Crenshaw Boulevard, Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274, USA	Still in the planning phase, the project will retrofit the existing parking lot by installing vegetated swales and porous pavement. The project will aid in stormwater management, increase groundwater supplies, and improve water quality.
Paramount	Dills Park	Built	6457 San Vincente Street, Paramount, CA 90723, USA	This City of Paramount project revitalized Ralph C. Dills Park by installing bioswales and pervious walkways, and by equipping storm drains with filters and "smart sponges". These improvements remove dirt, grease, and pollutants from water before storing and slowly releasing the treated water into the ground, where it will be available for drinking after further treatment.
Paramount	Paramount Storm Drain Improvement Project	Initial Design	15750 Paramount Boulevard, Paramount, CA 90723, USA	This stormwater management project will upgrade City of Paramount drains that have been identified with deficient draining capacity. With better drainage, flooding will be less severe and less likely to cause difficulties for pedestrians and drivers.
Pasadena	Central Arroyo Seco Stream	Built	Arroyo Seco Trail, Pasadena, CA 91105, USA	Central Arroyo Seco Stream was previously overrun with invasive plant species and was highly eroded due to lack of riparian vegetation. The park's transformation involved the restoration of 20 acres of riparian woodland, restoring a spring and wetland along the west side of the arroyo, and naturally treating stormwater with duckweed, a small flowering aquatic plant that removes phosphates, ammonia, and nitrogen.

Pico Rivera	Catch Basin Screens	Initial Design	9001-9099 Bequette Avenue, Pico Rivera, CA 90660, USA	This project would install catch basin debris screens in city and county-owned catch basins in Pico Rivera. These screens would filter debris and trash out of runoff water before it enters waterways.
Pico Rivera	Outfall Monitoring	Design/ Cnostruction	6411 Silverette Drive, Pico Rivera, CA 90660, USA	Install 17 automated composite water quality monitoring stations (3 in Cerritos, 4 in Downey, 1 in Hawaiian Gardens, 3 in Norwalk, 2 in Signal Hill, 4 in South Gate) at storm water outfalls in the Los Angeles River, San Gabriel River, and Los Cerritos Channel to monitor and attain required TMDL levels and help manage water runoff in the region.
Pico Rivera	Pilot Green Street Project	Initial Design	5371 Maris Avenue, Pico Rivera, CA 90660, USA	This project would fund a Pilot Green Street Project in Pico Rivera to address flooding and related pollution, and the Los Angeles region's chronic water shortages. Installing "Green Infrastructure" such as tree wells, bioswales, infiltration galleries, rain barrels, and permeable pavement will transform a regular street into a storm management system that can catch, clean, and reuse stormwater.
Pico Rivera	Tree Well Cisterns	Proposed	7430-7436 Rosemead Boulevard, Pico Rivera, CA 90660, USA	The City would install cisterns in tree wells along an arterial road. These cisterns would collect, store, and infiltrate dry-weather runoff and first flush stormwater, which is rainwater that comes after a dry spell and tends to pick up lots of pollutants.
Redondo Beach	Andrews Park Subsurface Storage, Use, and Infiltration Project	Initial Design	1801-1835 Rockefeller Lane, Redondo Beach, CA 90278, USA	This water reuse project will convey polluted urban runoff and stormwater away from existing storm drains into a facility for treatment. Once the water is treated, it will be conveyed into a storage tank where it will be reused for irrigation.
Redondo Beach	Herondo Parking Lot and Beach Infiltration	Initial Design	500-534 Beryl Street, Redondo Beach, CA 90277, USA	This project is designed to capture, treat, detain, and infiltrate storm flows from the Herondo Drain. After passing through a treatment facility, the water is infiltrated back into the ground to boost groundwater supplies.
San Fernando	Pacoima Wash Greenway: 1st Street Park	Initial Design	11460 San Fernando Road, San Fernando, CA 91340, USA	This project will convert an industrial riverfront property into public parkland with green infrastructure that will collect and treat runoff from up to 106 acres of residential property. Infrastructure may include permeable paving, bioswales, detention ponds, rain gardens, water infiltration areas, underground infiltration structures, green roofs, vegetative buffer areas, and street trees.

San Pedro	Peck Park Canyon Enhancement Project	Design/ Cnostruction	1242 West Elberon Avenue, San Pedro, CA 90732, USA	The Peck Park Canyon project will enhance the stream and surrounding canyon by providing erosion and sediment control measures, flood control, and water quality improvements through the infiltration of stormwater and associated pollutants. The project proposes a combination of in-stream, source control and over-bank green infrastructure including: Bioswales, energy dissipation, catch basins, rock slope protection, native plants, and extension of trail improvements.
Santa Monica	Los Amigos Park Stormwater Infiltration Project	Initial Design	2400-2576 6th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405, USA	A stormwater infiltration facility in Los Amigos Park will gather runoff from adjacent Ocean Park Boulevard and 7th Street. The water will percolate into the ground, where it will replenish groundwater supplies.
Santa Monica	Nebraska Avenue Stormwater Infiltration Project	Initial Design	2939 Nebraska Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90404, USA	This project will install new catch basins behind curb openings to allow water to percolate into the ground where it is naturally cleansed. The water from the catch basins will also recharge groundwater supplies, which can later be pumped up and used as drinking water, allowing Los Angeles County to import less water.
Santa Monica	Ozone Park Runoff Treatment and Reuse Project	Initial Design	700-754 Ozone Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405, USA	This project will install a series of underground treatment systems at Ozone Park that detain stormwater and urban runoff. These underground systems will remove trash, debris, sediments and pollutants from water and then store the treated water in underground storage tanks where it will eventually be pumped out for landscape irrigation or for groundwater recharge.
Santa Monica	Penmar Water Quality Improvement	Design/ Cnostruction	1226-1386 Rose Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90405, USA	This project will include the installation of various stormwater management practices, including hydrodynamic separators, infiltration basins and underground detention tanks, to reduce bacteria and other pollutants from storm drain runoff at Rose Avenue near Penmar Golf Course. Treated storm water runoff will be infiltrated and partially re-used for irrigation.
Santa Monica	Pico Library Rainwater Harvesting	Design/ Cnostruction	2201-2231 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90404, USA	The Pico Library will implement a roof rainwater-harvesting project. Captured water will be held in a 13,000 gallon cistern. The non-potable water will be recycled and used to flush indoor toilets.
Signal Hill	Cha'wot Open Space Preservation and Stormwater Runoff Reduction	Initial Design	2201 Junipero Avenue, Signal Hill, CA 90755, USA	The project will purchase 10 to 32 acres of open space in the northerly hilltop area of Signal Hill. The open space will support existing nature and wildlife, provide hiking and recreation, and also reduce runoff and groundwater recharge naturally by allowing water to permeate into soft soils.
Signal Hill	Signal Hill Elementary School Runoff Reduction Project	Design/ Cnostruction	1375 East Hill Street, Signal Hill, CA 90755, USA	This project will treat runoff from a 6.1 acre area at the Signal Hill Elementary School and from a 79 acre area of the Walnut Avenue storm drain by constructing a runoff capture facility under a portion of the playground. Storm flows will be directed into the underground facility where it will capture, cleansed, and used for groundwater recharge.

Signal Hill	Signal Hill Southeast Area Low Flow Diversion	Proposed	1905 East 21st Street, Signal Hill, CA 90755, USA	This project will construct a system that will divert low stormwater flows from an existing storm drain outfall that services approximately 50% the Los Angeles River watershed located within the City's boundaries directly into the sanitary sewer system for eventual treatment by the Los Angeles County Sanitation District. This project will prevent summer non-stormwater flows and "first flush" storm low flows from being emptied into the Hamilton Bowl Stormwater Retention facility and pumped into the lower Los Angeles River Estuary.
Signal Hill	Signal Hill Southwest Area Low Flow Diversion	Proposed	2000-2098 North Ohio Avenue, Signal Hill, CA 90755, USA	This project will construct a system that will divert low stormwater flows from an existing storm drain outfall that services approximately 50% the Los Angeles River watershed located within the City's boundaries directly into the sanitary sewer system for eventual treatment by the Los Angeles County Sanitation District. This project will prevent summer non-stormwater flows and "first flush" storm low flows from being emptied into the Hamilton Bowl Stormwater Retention facility and pumped into the lower Los Angeles River Estuary.
South El Monte	San Gabriel River Discovery Center	Design/ Cnostruction	1000 Durfee Avenue, South El Monte, CA 91733, USA	The Discovery Center will present the story of the San Gabriel River watershed, emphasize the importance of water resources and the natural values of the watershed, and provide educational and outdoor experiences for people of all ages. The Center will also continue the cultural, natural history and ecosystems messages, and outdoor experiences presented by the L. A. County Department of Parks and Recreation at the existing Nature Center.
South Gate	City of South Gate Storm Drain Improvements	Initial Design	9312 State Street, South Gate, CA 90280, USA	Catch basins are underground depositories that help separate trash from water before it flows through storm drain pipes and out to the Los Angeles River. This project will improve the quality of water that is discharged into the Los Angeles River by increasing the capacity of catch basins in the City of South Gate.
South Gate	Firestone Boulevard Median Project	Initial Design	4560-4562 Firestone Boulevard, South Gate, CA 90280, USA	This multi-benefit stormwater capture project will transform an asphalt median at Firestone Boulevard into a landscaped stormwater management system. Native vegetation will be planted in the median that will naturally cleanse and store stormwater for reuse.

South Gate	Hollydale Regional Sports Park Project	Initial Design	5400 Monroe Avenue, South Gate, CA 90280, USA	This project will install water treatment systems underneath Holydale Regional Sports Park. The Sports Park will to detain, treat, and reuse stormwater for irrigation and for groundwater recharge.
South Gate	Tree Well Dry Weather Runoff and First Flow Stormwater Capture	Initial Design	8427-8431 San Antonio Avenue, South Gate, CA 90280, USA	The project will install tree wells that are designed to absorb dry-weather urban runoff and be the first line of defense against stormwater runoff. Trees slow down and absorb runoff, which promotes infiltration of rainwater into the soil. Trees also reduce pollutants by taking up nutrients and other pollutants from water through their roots. Trees also improve air quality, provide shade in the summer, and support wildlife.
SUNLAND	Hansen Dam Water Conservation and Supply	Initial Design	Hansen Dam Bike Path, SUNLAND, CA 91040, USA	This project is a feasibility study to modify Hansen Dam to allow the operation of a year-round water conservation pool that would provide additional local water supply.
Topanga	Peña/Tuna Canyon Stormwater Management	Initial Design	3498 Tuna Canyon Road, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Topanga, CA 90290, USA	This City of Malibu project will contain and reduce stormwater system overflows from Tuna Canyon at Pacific Coast Highway, reduce runoff and debris from the Tuna Canyon Watershed, and improve culvert crossings at the Pacific Coast Highway.
Torrance	Amie Basin 	Design/ Construction	3601-3653 Spencer Street, Torrance, CA 90503, USA	The project will prevent storm water polluted with bacteria and trash from being discharged into Santa Monica Bay by providing natural water treatment systems, and increasing water infiltration into the ground. The project will also provide the community with open spaces and walking trails.
Torrance	City of Carson Rain Barrel Giveaway	Design/ Construction	826 West 213th Street, Torrance, CA 90502, USA	This project will give away a total of 1,000 Fiskar rain barrels by lottery to City of Carson residents. Rain barrels are excellent ways to reduce runoff from rain and irrigation overwatering that can carry pollutants like lawn fertilizer, pesticides, oil, and other fluids that leak from cars, animal feces, and more into the storm drain system.
Torrance	Enterado Basin	Initial Design	19610 Ronald Avenue, Torrance, CA 90503, USA	The project will prevent storm water polluted with bacteria and trash from being discharged into Santa Monica Bay by providing natural water treatment systems and increasing water infiltration at Enterado Basin. The project will also provide the community with open spaces and walking trails.
Torrance	Henrietta Basin	Initial Design	20518 Wayne Avenue, Torrance, CA 90503, USA	The project will prevent storm water polluted with bacteria and trash from being discharged into Santa Monica Bay by providing natural water treatment systems and increasing water infiltration into the ground at Henrietta Basin. The project will also provide the community with open spaces and walking trails.

Torrance	Machado Lake Watershed Catch Basins Screens & Signage	Initial Design	3017 Opal Street, Torrance, CA 90503, USA	The Cities of Torrance, Carson, Lomita, Palos Verdes Estates, Rolling Hills Estates, and Rancho Palos Verdes will install 2,062 trash screens at all catch basins that flow into Machado Lake. Two hundred "No Parking" signs in Torrance will be installed to increase efficiency of street sweeping, and reduce trash collected in catch basins.
Venice	Grand Canal Green Street Ends Green Infrastructure	Initial Design	2519 Grand Canal, Venice, CA 90291, USA	This project will install green infrastructure on the street-ends of three sub-drainages flowing directly into the Grand Canal. This infrastructure will mange stormwater and improve the aesthetic appearance of the streets.
Vernon	City of Vernon Storm Drain Improvement Project	Initial Design	4401-4421 Pacific Boulevard, Vernon, CA 90058, USA	This stormwater management project will upgrade City of Vernon drains that have been identified with deficient draining capacity, a characteristic that contributes to local flooding. With better drainage, flooding will be less severe and less likely to cause difficulties for pedestrians and drivers.
Vernon	Vernon Catch Basin Trash Inserts and Face Plate Screen Project	Design/ Construction	4801 Pacific Boulevard, Vernon, CA 90058, USA	A vast majority of the City of Vernon's existing catch basins have already been fitted with inserts, however approximately 82 catch basins could not accommodate the inserts due to size, shape, or angle constraints. This project will require the design and installation of suitable inserts in the vacant catch basins.
West Covina	Native Plant Restoration Projects	Initial Design	1427-1599 West Covina Parkway, West Covina, CA 91790, USA	This citywide project will establish native, drought-resistant plants in city facilities such as municipal lots and city yards. California's native plants help convey water into the ground while naturally cleansing and filtering it.
West Covina	Water Infiltration Infrastructure Projects	Initial Design	1444 West Garvey Avenue South, West Covina, CA 91790, USA	This citywide project will collect stormwater and urban runoff by installing green infrastructure along the public right-of-way. Green infrastructure technologies such as permeable pavers, vegetative swales, and infiltration tree wells allow stormwater to be absorbed into tithe soil where it is naturally filtered and can recharge groundwater.
Whittier	La Mirada Storm Drainage Improvement	Initial Design	14949-14993 Imperial Highway, Whittier, CA 90604, USA	This project will upgrade 10 La Mirada drains that have been identified as insufficient in draining capacity. With better drainage, flooding will be less severe and less likely to cause difficulties for pedestrians and drivers.
Whittier	Whittier Narrows Park	Initial Design	Santa Anita Ave and Lexington Gallatin N, Whittier, California 91733, USA	The proposed project will divert stormwater flows into a constructed infiltration basin on a County Park facility.
Whittier	Parkway Infiltration Project	Initial Design	13225 Walnut Street, Whittier, CA 90602, USA	This citywide project will provide landscaping in city parks that support stormwater infiltration. The landscaping will include "Green Infrastructure" such as permeable paving, plant-filled swales, detention ponds, rain gardens, and underground infiltration facilities that allow water to filter into soil for groundwater recharge.
Whittier	Road Reconfiguration Project	Initial Design	13230 Penn Street, Whittier, CA 90602, USA	This project will reconfigure roads so that there will be more pervious areas where water is allowed to sink into the ground. Appropriate streets will be selected to narrow or eliminate traffic lanes to provide space for pervious bicycle lanes, depressed landscaped medians, parkways, and intersection bulb-outs for the capture and infiltration of stormwater and urban runoff.

Whittier	Smart Manhole Covers Project	Initial Design	13001-13053 Penn Street, Whittier, CA 90602, USA	This citywide project will install smart manhole covers that signal sanitary sewer overflows before they occur. The smart manhole covers will help the city take proactive action before flooding occurs.
Whittier	Stream Habitat Project	Initial Design	13212 Park Street, Whittier, CA 90601, USA	This project will construct artificial streams in one or more of Whittier's parks. These streams will be fed by collected stormwater and provide habitat for native species. The constructed streams will allow space for stormwater to be absorbed into soils for groundwater recharge.