PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Correspondence Received

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P. HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:		
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	
10.	93	Favor	Catherine Rodriguez		
			Eesha Chakraborty		
			Manny Guerrero	Don't let them cut corners and polite our already polluted waters! Thanks.	
			Mark S Young		
			Shante K Vutheikun		
			Vv Citizen		
		Oppose	David Nisenbaum		
			SHAHRIAR AFSHANI		
		Other	Annelisa E Moe	We request that language be added to the Implementation Ordinance, and incorporated into agenda items #10 and #93 to maintain an annual TRP and SS call-for-projects. The following is language proposed for addition to the Implementation Ordinance with additional new language proposed by OWLA. "The Chief Engineer may, in their discretion, request Infrastructure Program proposals either annually or biennially, while maintaining an annual request for Technical Resources Program proposals and Scientific Studies."	
			Maggie Gardner	LA Waterkeeper is aligned with the letter and comments submitted by the OurWaterLA Coalition. Specifically, while we are comfortable with the change in the ordinance that allows for a call for Infrastructure Program projects annually or biennially, we would like to see an annual call for Technical Resources Program projects.	
		Item Total	10		
93.		Oppose	Vv Citizen		
		Other	Annelisa E Moe	We request that language be added to the Implementation Ordinance, and incorporated into agenda items #10 and #93 to maintain an annual TRP and SS call-for-projects. The following is language proposed for addition to the Implementation Ordinance with additional new language proposed by OWLA. "The Chief Engineer may, in their discretion, request Infrastructure Program proposals either annually or biennially, while maintaining an annual request	

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93.		Other	Maggie Gardner	LA Waterkeeper is aligned with the letter and comments submitted by the OurWaterLA Coalition. Specifically, while we are comfortable with the change in the ordinance that allows for a call for Infrastructure Program projects annually or biennially, we would like to see an annual call for Technical Resources Program projects.
			Shante K Vutheikun	
		Item Total	4	
Grand Total			14	



Date: May 6, 2024

 Hon. Lindsey P. Horvath, Chair, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (LACBoS) Hon. Kathryn Barger, Chair Pro Tem, LACBoS
Hon. Hilda L. Solis, Supervisor, First District, Los Angeles County
Hon. Holly J. Mitchell, Supervisor, Second District, Los Angeles County
Hon. Janice Hahn, Supervisor, Fourth District, Los Angeles County

From: OWLA Core Team (Heal the Bay, LAANE, LA Waterkeeper, Nature for All, Pacoima Beautiful, SCOPE, The Nature Conservancy, and TreePeople)

RE: Conditional support for Item #10: Amendments to the Safe Clean Water Program Ordinance Regarding Frequency of Administrative Reporting and Calls for Infrastructure Projects; and Item #93: County Code, Flood Control District Code Amendment.

To the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors:

OurWaterLA is a diverse coalition of community leaders and organizations from across Los Angeles County united to create a strong water future for Los Angeles. Our goal is to secure clean, safe, affordable and reliable water for drinking, recreation, and commerce now and for the future. We have a deep commitment to uphold the trust that voters had in us when passing Measure W in 2018, and that projects which achieve Safe, Clean Water Program (SCWP) objectives of water quality, water supply, nature-based solutions and community investments are prioritized. Adaptive management of the SCWP may, at times, necessitate updates to the Implementation Ordinance, as proposed with agenda item #10: Amendments to the Safe Clean Water Program Ordinance Regarding Frequency of Administrative Reporting and Calls for Infrastructure Projects; and agenda item #93: County Code, Flood Control District Code Amendment.

We greatly appreciate that the immediate action for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 maintains a call-for-projects for applications under the Technical Resources Program (TRP) and for Scientific Studies (SS). We also have no objection to moving reporting from quarterly to annually with an additional mid-year report, especially if it will help to expedite project implementation. The new proposed reporting is certainly the minimum we would want to see, though, to maintain accountability and transparency.

We do, however, have concerns about the authorization to change the call-for-projects from annual or biennial, as needed moving forward, and the implication that this would also mean that TRP and SS call-for-projects would be biennial. TRP applications offer a pathway for applicants and project developers who have less resources or experience with engaging in the SCWP to receive the technical assistance necessary to apply for infrastructure funds in the future. The pathway from TRP to Infrastructure Program application takes at least two years based on previous application rounds, and sometimes longer.

We therefore request that language be added to the Implementation Ordinance, and incorporated into agenda items #10 and #93 to maintain an annual TRP and SS

call-for-projects. The following is language proposed for addition to the Implementation Ordinance; red text designates additional new language proposed by OWLA.

"The Chief Engineer may, in their discretion, request Infrastructure Program proposals either annually or biennially, while maintaining an annual request for Technical Resources Program proposals and Scientific Studies."

We are happy to further discuss the importance of continuing an annual call for TRP and SS applications if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration of our recommendation. We look forward to continuing our engagement with the Safe, Clean Water Program and the Board of Supervisors to ensure a better water future for LA County.

Sincerely,

OurWaterLA