



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

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

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

Correspondence Received

Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
45.		Favor	Elva Yanez	Save Elephant Hill urges the Board of Supervisors to support item 45 and the Safe Clean Water Program's Stormwater Investment Plan for 2024-2025. See our attached letter of support for additional details. Thank you.
			Maggie Gardner	
			Roxan Rivas	
			Trisha M Herrera	
		Oppose	Monisha Parker	<p>Dear Board of Supervisors,</p> <p>Subject: Affordable Stormwater Investment Plans for the Safe, Clean Water Program</p> <p>As we confront the pressing challenges posed by stormwater management, particularly within the Safe, Clean Water Program's Regional Program, it is crucial that we adopt strategic approaches that thoughtfully integrate financial planning, community engagement, and innovative stormwater management practices. Therefore, I am providing several strategies that could significantly contribute to the development of affordable Stormwater Investment Plans for Los Angeles County.</p> <p>1. Leverage Funding and Grants To effectively finance stormwater projects, we should focus on identifying funding opportunities provided by local, state, and federal agencies. Resources like the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) offer low-interest loans that can alleviate budgetary constraints. Additionally, establishing Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) can enable cost-sharing and foster private investment through incentives such as tax credits.</p> <p>2. Establish a Cost-Effective Framework Adopting a data-driven approach will allow us to prioritize projects that promise the greatest impact at the lowest costs. Specifically, we should target areas most affected by flooding and pollution. Integrating green infrastructure, such as bioswales and permeable pavements, can also provide a cost-effective alternative to traditional infrastructure.</p> <p>3. Community Engagement and Support Community engagement is essential in ensuring that our stormwater projects resonate with local needs. By involving residents in the planning process and educating the public about the benefits of stormwater management, we can grow community support and potentially increase volunteerism for future projects.</p> <p>4. Innovative Financing Mechanisms</p>

As of: 10/23/2024 9:00:10 AM



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			<p>The establishment of stormwater utility fees, assessed on impervious surface area, will generate a sustainable funding stream for ongoing system maintenance and upgrades. Additionally, we could explore value capture financing to leverage the increased property values attributed to stormwater improvements.</p> <p>5. Regional Collaboration To maximize resources, collaboration with neighboring jurisdictions could lead to shared funding applications and cost-sharing practices. Forming a Regional Stormwater Coalition to coordinate projects that yield benefits across multiple communities will enhance our ability to tackle large-scale stormwater issues.</p> <p>6. Long-Term Planning Integrating stormwater management plans with existing capital improvement initiatives can help exploit synergies and avoid redundancy. We should also adopt adaptive management practices to embrace flexibility in our approaches, allowing us to adjust as new technologies and funding opportunities emerge.</p> <p>7. Utilize Technology and Data The integration of smart technologies, including remote sensing and data analytics, will enable us to optimize investment decisions and maintenance schedules, ultimately reducing long-term costs. Employing hydrological modeling can further identify the most effective stormwater management practices.</p> <p>8. Assessment of Existing Infrastructure Conducting regular asset inventories of our existing stormwater systems will reveal efficiencies and redevelopment opportunities to help control costs. We must prioritize maintenance to extend the lifespan of our assets and minimize the need for expensive replacements.</p> <p>Implementing these strategies will require careful consideration of the local context, the resources at our disposal, and the unique needs of our communities. Through a commitment to combining financial prudence with innovative management techniques, we can create a sustainable framework for stormwater investment in Los Angeles County.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Sincerely, Monisha Parker</p>
	Other	Luke Ginger	The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission has submitted the attached letter regarding recommendations to improve and advance the Safe Clean Water Program.
	Item Total	6	

Grand Total			6	
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SANTA MONICA BAY
RESTORATION COMMISSION
MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

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Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013
213-576-6615
www.smbrc.ca.gov

October 18, 2024

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

**Re: Letter of Support regarding Recommendations to Advance and Improve
Los Angeles County's Safe Clean Water Program**

Dear Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (Commission), I am writing to provide support and recommendations for the Los Angeles County Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP).

The Commission was established by an act of the California Legislature in 2002 to monitor, assess, coordinate, and advise the activities of state programs and oversee funding that affects the beneficial uses, restoration, and enhancement of Santa Monica Bay and its watersheds. The Commission serves as the Management Conference for the Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (SMBNEP). Implementation of the SCWP is Action #43 of the SMBNEP's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) [Action Plan](#).

At its October 10, 2024 meeting, the Commission's Governing Board adopted Resolution 24-02 to provide recommendations to advance and improve the SCWP (Attachment 1). As stated in Resolution 24-02, the Commission supports a robust watershed planning process that includes strong community engagement. The Commission requests inclusion as an interested party and partner in the North, Central, or South Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASC). Additionally, the Commission offers its expertise to the North, Central, and South Santa Monica Bay Watershed WASCs for the watershed planning process.

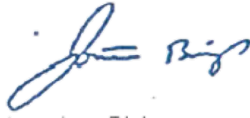
The Commission looks forward to continuing to support implementation of the SCWP and promote projects that will increase water supply, improve water quality, and enhance communities throughout the Santa Monica Bay watershed.

Please feel free to contact Luke Ginger, Administrative Director of the Commission, at luke.ginger@waterboards.ca.gov should you have further questions.

Thank you for your consideration,



The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission's mission is to restore and enhance Santa Monica Bay through actions and partnerships that improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resources, mitigate the impacts of climate change and sea level rise, and protect Santa Monica Bay's benefits and values.



BY:

Jonathan Bishop
Governing Board Chair
Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

cc: Luke Ginger, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
Annette Trejo, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor, District 1
Benjamin Feldman, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor, District 1
Laura Muraida, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor, District 2
Francisco Lopez, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor, District 2
Caroline Torosis, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor, District 2
Aaron Ordower, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor, District 3
Joel Torrez Jr., Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor, District 4
Daritza Gonzalez, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor, District 4
Anish Saraiya, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor, District 5
Roberto Alvarez, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor, District 5
Belinda Faustinos, Chair Regional Oversight Committee
Diana Tang, Vice-Chair Regional Oversight Committee
Jessica Forte, Chair North Santa Monica Bay WASC
Roxanne Hughes, Vice-Chair North Santa Monica Bay WASC
Susie Santilena, Co-Chair Central Santa Monica Bay WASC
Rita Kampalath, Co-Chair Central Santa Monica Bay WASC
Craig Cadwallader, Chair South Santa Monica Bay WASC
Douglas Krauss, Vice-Chair South Santa Monica Bay WASC
Mark Pestrella, Director, Los Angeles County Public Works
Tom Ford, Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program Director
Bruce Reznik, LA Waterkeeper

Attachments

Attachment 1 SMBRC Resolution 24-02 regarding Recommendations to Advance and Improve Los Angeles County's Safe Clean Water Program

Attachment 1



**RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION
REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADVANCE AND IMPROVE THE SAFE
CLEAN WATER PROGRAM**

October 10, 2024

Resolution No. 24-02

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County's Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) was established to provide local, dedicated funding to increase local water supply, improve water quality, and protect public health; and

WHEREAS, A portion of SCWP's revenues are allocated to the Regional Program to fund stormwater projects and programs at the watershed level and are distributed among nine Watershed Areas to be programmed by the respective Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC); and

WHEREAS, The WASCs review project proposals and develop Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) that recommend funding allocations for projects and programs in the Regional Program's Infrastructure, Technical Resources, and Scientific Studies Programs for the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors' consideration of approval; and

WHEREAS, Three of the Watershed Areas lie completely or partially in the Santa Monica Bay watersheds: The North, Central, and South Santa Monica Bay Watershed Areas; and

WHEREAS, Implementation of the SCWP is a key action (#43) of the Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (NEP) Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) Action Plan approved by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission's Governing Board in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Priorities of the SCWP align with additional CCMP Action Plan actions (#16, #28, and #40) including: to help achieve Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) goals for 303(d) listed waterbodies in the Bay and its watersheds; to support efforts of disadvantaged communities to achieve healthy habitats, implement green infrastructure, and reduce pollution; and to research and inform best management practices and pollution reduction practices to address non-point source pollution, including enhanced monitoring programs to evaluate project outcomes; and



The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission's mission is to restore and enhance Santa Monica Bay through actions and partnerships that improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resources, mitigate the impacts of climate change and sea level rise, and protect Santa Monica Bay's benefits and values.

WHEREAS, The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission's Governing Board adopted Resolutions 20-04 in 2020, 21-02 in 2021, and 22-01 in 2022 supporting the SCWP's first, second, and third rounds of funding, respectively, for projects in Santa Monica Bay watersheds that further the implementation of the CCMP Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, The Biennial Progress Report of the SCWP recommended improving inclusive community engagement in watershed planning; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission hereby:

1. SUPPORTS a robust watershed planning process that includes strong community engagement efforts to facilitate strategic investments and maximize benefits in Santa Monica Bay and its watersheds, particularly those that align with the CCMP; and
2. REQUESTS the Commission's inclusion as an interested party and partner and request to be specifically designated as a "Community Stakeholder" in the North, Central, or South Santa Monica Bay WASCs; and
3. OFFERS the Commission's expertise to the North, Central, and South Santa Monica Bay WASCs during the watershed planning process; and
4. DIRECTS Commission staff to provide this resolution to the North, Central, and South Santa Monica Bay WASCs, the SCWP Regional Oversight Committee, and the Board of Supervisors with a letter from the Governing Board Chair.

BY:



Jonathan Bishop
Governing Board Chair
Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission