



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments*

AGENDA AND NOTICE OF THE MEETING OF THE WATER WORKING GROUP

Wednesday, November 9, 2022

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83026526240>

Chair
Alex Tachiki
City of
Monrovia

Vice Chair
Tom Love
USGVMWD

MEMBERS

Alhambra
Bradbury
Covina
Glendora
Monrovia
Pomona
Sierra Madre
LA County DPW
TVMWD
SGVMWD
USGVMWD

EX-OFFICIO

LA County
Sanitation
Districts
SG Basin
Watermaster

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Discussion Items
 - 3.1 MS4 Compliance & Safe Clean Water Program (**Page 2**)
 - 3.2 Long Term Drought Impacts & Public Education (**Page 4**)
4. Announcements
5. Adjourn

REPORT

DATE: November 9, 2022

TO: Water Policy Committee & Working Group

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **MS4 COMPLIANCE & SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

BACKGROUND

At the October 2022 Water Policy Committee and Water Working Group Joint Meeting, the Water Working Group Chair Alex Tachiki suggested the Water Working Group meet apart from the Water Policy Committee to discuss more technical aspects of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit and Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP).

The Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit is adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) approximately every five years to protect the water quality of the region's oceans, rivers, lakes, and other waterways. The MS4 Permit is required for compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act and State's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. The most recent MS4 Permit was adopted in mid-July 2021, replacing the Permit that was adopted in 2012.

The MS4 Permit establishes the 1) numeric limits for the amount of pollutants that can enter and exit the storm sewer system; and 2) the timeframes in which these limits must be met. The Regional Board establishes interim and final deadlines to meet the pollutant limits. The MS4 Permit also includes a variety of activities that must be completed to reduce stormwater run-off and to protect water quality.

One funding source for Permittees to comply with the MS4 Permit is the Safe Clean Water Program, which was a parcel tax measure passed by voters in 2018. It produces approximately \$285 million annually for stormwater projects. Forty percent of annually collected revenues are distributed directly to local governments to implement stormwater projects, and fifty percent are distributed through a regional program, which are allocated to each watershed.

Permittees can use their local return funding to implement projects to comply with the MS4 Permit, and they can submit applications for the regional funding. Each year, a committee of stakeholders from each region – made up of city staff, elected officials, non-government organization representatives, and other stakeholders – deliberates and determines what projects to fund.

At this Water Working Group Meeting, staff will facilitate a discussion on MS4 compliance and the Safe Clean Water Program, including helping cities that are having trouble working with the SCWP.

Prepared by: 
Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by: 
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

REPORT

DATE: November 9, 2022

TO: Water Policy Committee & Working Group

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **LONG TERM DROUGHT IMPACTS & PUBLIC EDUCATION**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

BACKGROUND

At the October 2022 Water Policy Committee and Water Working Group Joint Meeting, the Water Working Group Chair Alex Tachiki suggested the Water Working Group meet apart from the Water Policy Committee to discuss more technical aspects of the ongoing drought crisis.

The State of California is facing its third year of drought conditions. The U.S. Drought Monitor determined that more than 97% of the state's land area is in at least "severe" drought status, 60% in at least "extreme" drought and 12% in "exceptional" drought.

This news was followed up the California Department of Water Resources issuing its first-ever zero percent allocation on the State Water Project in December 2021, which meant that communities across the state would receive only "health and safety" water. And for the second year in a row, Central Valley Project (CVP) allocations have been at zero percent, significantly impacting agriculture and further exacerbating the current water supply crisis statewide.

In early January 2022, the State Water Resource Control Board approved emergency water conservation mandates in place for cities, individual property owners, and residents restricting the water activities they can conduct. These statewide rules are put forth in an effort to prevent wasteful water use and promote water conservation.

Although many San Gabriel Valley residents and water suppliers have made progress in reducing water use and improving efficiency, water use is outpacing water replenishment and reducing water supply at unsustainable rates. Clean, safe, and reliable water supply is central to San Gabriel Valley residents, economy, and natural systems, and additional conservation actions as well as new infrastructure investments are needed to address the region's water challenges. Additionally, extreme heat and ensuing periods of drought exacerbate challenges for both energy and water management and is a growing threat to lives and livelihoods across the state - especially for disadvantaged communities.

At this Water Working Group Meeting, staff will facilitate a discussion on long-term drought impacts, understanding the potential for rate increases or pass-through costs, and how to educate

Public Works Directors, City Managers, and local elected officials on what to expect as drought conditions persist and/or worsen.

Prepared by: 
Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by: 
Marisa Creter
Executive Director