



**SGVCOG Joint Water Policy Committee/TAC Meeting
Approved Minutes**

Date: October 12, 2021
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Zoom/YouTube teleconference meeting

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order: G. Crudginton called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M.
2. Roll Call

Water Policy Committee Members Present

J. Stark; Claremont
G. Boyer; Glendora
G. Crudginton; Monrovia
M. Clark; Rosemead
D. Mahmud; South Pasadena

Water Policy Committee Members Absent

San Gabriel
Sierra Madre

Water TAC Members Present

D. Dolphin; Alhambra
K. Kearney; Bradbury
S. Costandi/S. Gallant; Covina
A. Sweet; Glendora
R. Wang; LA County Public Works
J. Carlson; Sierra Madre
T. Gerber; South Pasadena

Water TAC Members Absent

Monrovia
Pomona
USGVMWD

Ex Officio Members Present

S. Green; LA County Sanitation Districts
L. Augino; Watermaster

Ex Officio Members Absent

K. Gardner; Watermaster

Guests

M. Barcelo; City of Walnut
D. Amaya; Assemblymember Rubio's Office
J. Millet; Richard, Watson, & Associates
L. Largent; O Strategies Group
A. Sanchez; Member of the Public
R. Tajir; Member of the Public
P. Cortez; USGVMWD
J. Casanova; Council for Watershed Health
J. Torres; City of Monrovia

SGVCOG Staff

- C. Sims
- B. Logasa
- P. Hubler
- T. Egan

3. Public Comment

- R. Tajir shared that the description of the “enemy of the month” on the ULAR WASC website is misleading. It says that copper can get into the drinking water supply as the water passes through household plumbing systems. However, the ULAR EWMP is singularly concerned with the impact of stormwater on runoff water quality, not drinking water quality. R. Tajir asserts that runoff containing copper and other pollutants either is discharged to the ocean or to a ground water recharge basin where they are treated. R. Tajir also shared arguments from administrative petitions filed with the State Board challenging the 2021 MS4 Permit. According to the arguments, the Regional Board erred when it substituted the watershed management program (WMPs) for the standard stormwater management program required of all MS4s in the state. The Regional Board also erred by requiring permittees to comply with TMDLs in the MS4 Permit that are not identified on the state and federal 303(d) list. R. Tajir also expressed that the Regional Board has made last-minute changes to MS4 permit reporting which is difficult for cities to comply with, including increasing the number of annual reports from one to two times per year.

- 4. Changes to Agenda Order.
No changes to agenda order.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 5. Water Committee/TAC September Meeting Minutes
- 6. Water TAC Special Meeting Minutes
- 7. Adoption of Resolution 21-01-WC Enabling the Water Policy Committee and Water Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to Continue Holding Meetings via Teleconferencing

**There was a motion to approve the Consent Calendar items.
(M/S: D. Mahmud/G.Boyer)**

[MOTION PASSED]

AYES:	Committee – Claremont; Glendora; Monrovia; Rosemead; South Pasadena TAC – Alhambra; Covina; Glendora; Sierra Madre; South Pasadena
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	TAC – Alhambra; LA County Public Works
NO VOTE GIVEN:	TAC – Bradbury; Covina; SGVMWD
ABSENT:	Committee – San Gabriel; Sierra Madre

DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. Adoption of 2022 Legislative Platform

Discussion:

- B. Logasa read off the 2021 Legislative Platform with staff-recommended revisions for 2022.
- M. Clark asked for an update on SB 426, to which P. Hubler explained that the bill is still active, but had to be pushed to a two-year bill due to COVID restrictions placed on legislators. The bill must move by January 31, 2022.
- S. Green provided information on an ombudsman that was created within the USEPA for MS4 Permit issues that arise. SGVCOG could potentially reach out to them to help advocate the state to implement FCA guidelines. The National League of Cities and US Conference of Mayors have been involved in these issues in the past and could provide assistance or resources on working with USEPA. P. Hubler concurs with S. Green on reaching out to US Conference of Mayors and adds that Congresswoman Napolitano’s Office could also be helpful.
- D. Mahmud shared that the committees will likely have more success pushing regulatory agencies to adopt tools like the biotic ligand model for zinc as opposed to pushing legislation for producer responsibility. D. Mahmud also pointed out that there will be billions of dollars allocated in the state budget to address climate change, including stormwater projects. D. Mahmud recommends staff nail down the amount of money that is going to be available for stormwater projects specifically and the timeline for application submissions. D. Mahmud also shared that Congress also passed legislation to provide financial resources for stormwater projects, and tasked staff with identifying whether that is accurate and how the money will be dispersed.
- P. Cortez shared that she does not believe that SB 45 will move forward since it was originally introduced as part of an agreement with the budget trailer bill that was passed towards the end of the legislative session. The legislature looked at SB 45 and put some of that language into the budget trailer bill. D. Mahmud approves of the legislative priorities given that they no longer have a specific focus on SB 45.

**There was a motion to adopt the 2022 Legislative Platform.
(M/S: D. Mahmud/M. Clark)**

[MOTION PASSED]

AYES:	Committee – Claremont; Glendora; Monrovia; Rosemead; South Pasadena TAC – Alhambra; Covina; Glendora; Sierra Madre; South Pasadena;
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	TAC – LA County Public Works

NO VOTE GIVEN:	TAC – Bradbury; SGVMWD
ABSENT:	Committee – San Gabriel; Sierra Madre TAC – Monrovia; Pomona; USGVMWD

UPDATE ITEMS

9. MS4 Permit 101 Guide

B. Logasa, SGVCOG Management Analyst, provided information on this item. SGVCOG staff developed two “MS4 101” documents to provide an overview of the Permit, compliance updates, and an overarching resource guide on stormwater. One is meant to help inform and engage elected officials around the Permit and with the LA Regional Water Quality Control Board; the other is to help inform new planning and public works employees on the Permit. Committee members were asked to review each document and submit comments to Caitlin and/or Brianne in the new few days, after which the guide for elected officials will be passed onto the Governing Board.

10. Regional Phase I Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit
There were no updates on this item.

11. Safe Clean Water Program

B. Logasa, SGVCOG Management Analyst, provided information on this item. The Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) met on Thursday, October 7, 2021 and selected Shelley Luce and Lauren Ahkiam as Co-Chairs and Kristine Guerrero as Vice-Chair. The committee also discussed updates on Early Implementation. The Scoring Committee met on Tuesday, September 5, 2021 and voted to approve the Official Scoring for Ladera Heights – W Centinela Ave. Green Improvement Project. The Upper Los Angeles River (ULAR) WASC met on Wednesday, October 6, 2021. The Watershed Coordinator presented on the Final Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan; additionally, the committee was given four presentations from the Scientific Studies Program. The Upper San Gabriel River (USGR) WASC met on Thursday, September 23, 2021. The Watershed Coordinator presented on the Final Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan; additionally, the committee was given two presentations from the Scientific Studies Program. The Rio Hondo WASC met on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 and discussed their draft Strategic Outreach and Engagement Plan as well as the Disadvantaged Community, Nature Based Solutions, and Partial Funding Interim Gudielines. The SIPS were presented to and approved by the Board of Supervisors on September 15, 2021. With approval of the SIPS, Transfer Agreements for the Infrastructure Program and Scientific Studies will be prepared and distributed to the recipients, and Technical Resources Program recipients will be contacted by the District.

Discussion:

- D. Mahmud asked if the programs within the SIPS that the Water Policy Committee/TAC supported were included in the Supervisor’s approval. C. Sims

replied that staff can check that the programs were approved and present that next month.

12. Federal and State Budget and Legislative Updates
B. Logasa, SGVCOG Management Analyst, provided information on this item. Because the discussion item was related to this update item, B. Logasa encouraged everyone to review the agenda packet for more information on specific legislation.
13. Litigation Updates
There were no updates on this item.

Discussion:

- D. Mahmud requested that staff provided an update next month on the pending mission on state mandates claims. There are still pending claims from the 2001 and 2012 MS4 Permit.
14. E/WMP Updates
D. Dolphin provided an update on this item. Most of the WMPs are working on their annual report. This will be the last annual report in the 2012 format. Next year, the new formatting requirements of the 2020 MS4 Permit will be incorporated into the annual report.
 15. Water Supply Update
P. Cortez provided an update on this item. T. Love, Watermaster, and Metropolitan Water District have had conversations about bringing in some deliveries in the fall. Upper District will hopefully be bringing in 30,000 acre feet of wet water and 10,000 acre feet from cyclic storage. Upper District did send out its water supply alert as necessitated from the water shortage contingency plan. That means that Upper District is actively changing its outreach and communications to its cities and retailers. We can anticipate that the Department of Water Resources or the Governor will soon make mandatory the voluntary 15% cut on water in December. Upper District has a new water conservation social media toolkit for cities available on its website.
 16. Water TAC Chair Report
There were no updates on this item.
 17. Water Boards Update
There were no updates on this item.

CHAIR'S REPORT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements.

ADJOURN

G. Crudginton adjourned the meeting at 11:39 A.M.