

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: May 26, 2021

CAO File No. 0220-05558-0005

Council File No. 18-0384

Council District: —

To: The City Council
The Mayor

From: Richard H. Llewellyn, Jr.,  City Administrative Officer

Reference: Measure W Administrative Oversight Committee Recommendations

Subject: **MEASURE W – SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM – APPROVAL OF REGIONAL PROJECTS FOR ROUND 3 SUBMISSION**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. Approve the projects listed in Attachment A to be submitted for the Los Angeles County Measure W – Safe, Clean Water Program Round 3 Regional Call for Projects, with the condition that the Bureau of Sanitation receive a minimum funding commitment of \$15 million from CalTrans prior to submission of the application for the Hollenbeck Park Lake Project; and
2. Authorize the City Administrative Officer, with the concurrence of the Chief Legislative Analyst, to make technical changes as needed to implement Mayor and City Council intentions.

SUMMARY

On October 14, 2020, the Mayor and City Council approved projects submitted for Rounds 1 and 2 for the Los Angeles County Measure W – Safe, Clean Water Program Regional Call for Projects (C.F. 18-0384). The Bureau of Sanitation (BOS) requests authority to submit proposed projects for Round 3 of the Regional Call for Projects. The County deadline for submission of applications is July 31, 2021.

On February 25, 2021, BOS presented Round 3 proposed projects to the Measure W Administrative Oversight Committee (AOC) for consideration. The AOC approved all projects with the exception of the Hollenbeck Park Lake Project pending development of a feasibility study that would clearly define the project scope and additional efforts to identify leveraging opportunities with CalTrans and Proposition O (Prop O) to improve the competitive position of this project.

In April 2021, the Prop O Citizens Oversight Advisory Committee (Prop O COAC) and the Prop O Administrative Oversight Committee (Prop O AOC) approved an allocation of \$5 million for the Hollenbeck Park Lake Project as part of a plan to expend the remaining balance of Prop O Contingency Funds and close out the program. The Prop O AOC recommendations are pending Council and Mayor approval (C.F. 13-1526). Because of the lake's proximity to the 5 Freeway and resulting run off, the City has previously discussed a partnership with CalTrans for a project to mitigate the resulting impacts. Discussions with CalTrans recently resumed, but a commitment has not been secured.

On May 13, 2021, BOS provided an update to the AOC on the Hollenbeck Park Lake project including status of the feasibility study, proposed scope and leveraged funding opportunities from CalTrans and Prop O. The AOC conditionally approved the Hollenbeck Park Lake Project, contingent upon a minimum funding commitment of \$15 million by CalTrans prior to the July 31, 2021 submission deadline. The Department of Water and Power (DWP) also presented its proposed Round 3 projects and indicated that final submissions will be dependent on the outcome of decisions on Round 2 projects, which are currently going through the County review process.

Agendas, presentations and meeting materials of the AOC are available at the CAO website at www.cao.lacity.org/capital.

It is important to note that all projects are in the pre-design stage and some elements may evolve as designs are finalized. Further, total project costs and preliminary cash flows included in Attachment A will likely be adjusted based on final designs and expected annual expenditures.

Round 3 Projects

BOS proposes to submit four applications for infrastructure projects and two applications for Operation and Maintenance funds. Both BOS and DWP are working with staff and Recreation and Parks (RAP) and are expected to present their relevant projects to the RAP Board in June.

Angeles Mesa Green Infrastructure Corridor Project

This project located in Council District 8 will capture and infiltrate stormwater runoff from a 307-acre drainage area within the Park Mesa community to achieve regulatory water quality goals and provide benefits to a disadvantaged community. The improvements include up to 44 drywells, over 200 new trees, parkway planters and landscaping that will provide water quality and water supply benefit through infiltration into the aquifer and will integrate with Los Angeles Unified School District's (LAUSD) Safe Routes to Schools efforts around Angeles Mesa Elementary School and Crenshaw High School. The estimated capital cost is \$11.4 million.

Machado Lake Ecosystem Rehabilitation O&M

The Machado Lake Ecosystem Rehabilitation Project funded primarily by Proposition O and completed in 2017, is a 40-acre lake and complex coastal wetland ecosystem located in the Harbor City and Wilmington communities in Council District 15 and addresses critical Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) compliance targets. O&M activities such as trash and debris removal, weed and algae removal, maintenance of aquatic plants, and upkeep of safety barriers have been deferred.

due to budget constraints that impact compliance and are necessary to protect the habitat and public health. The estimated annual O&M cost is \$1.14 million or \$5.7 million for the 5-year application period.

Wilmington Anaheim Green Infrastructure Network Project

This project located in Council District 15 will capture stormwater runoff from a 137.5-acre drainage area within the Wilmington community. The improvements include 17 catch basins, parkway bioswales, permeable pavers, and street trees. Captured runoff will either be infiltrated or diverted to Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant (TIWRP) for recycling. The project will also address long-standing flooding and traffic safety issues in a disadvantaged community. The estimated capital cost is \$11.2 million.

Echo Park Lake Rehabilitation O&M

The Echo Park Lake Rehabilitation Project funded by Proposition O and completed in 2013, is a 13-acre lake and 4-acre wetland that also serves as a stormwater retention basin prior to discharge to the LA River located in Council District 13 and addresses critical TMDL compliance requirements. O&M activities such as trash and debris removal, weed and algae removal, maintenance of aquatic plants and upkeep of safety barriers have been deferred due to budget constraints that impact compliance and are necessary to protect the habitat and public health. The estimated annual O&M cost is \$480,000 or \$2.4 million over the 50 year application period.

Hollenbeck Park Lake Project

This project located in Council District 14 will address dry weather flow and a portion of wet weather flow using a diversion and storage system to reduce pollutant loads entering the nearby Los Angeles River. Multi-benefit improvements being evaluated include re-grading of the lake shoreline, landscaping, permeable pavement, and trees with input from neighborhood stakeholders and RAP staff. The project will address long-standing health and safety issues in a disadvantaged community. BOS and Council District 14 are in discussions with CalTrans to secure a partial funding commitment as the park is impacted by runoff from the adjacent 5 Freeway. This Office recently issued a report transmitting the Prop O AOC recommendation of an allocation of \$5 million from Prop O that is pending Mayor and Council consideration (C.F. 13-1526). The AOC's approval of this project is contingent upon BOS receiving a minimum funding commitment of \$15 million from CalTrans prior to submission of the application. The estimated capital cost is \$30 million.

LA River Runoff Mitigation Infrastructure Project

This critical compliance project addresses dry weather runoff from a 9,660-acre drainage area across Council Districts 3 and 12 with the installation of low flow diversion structures to capture and pump runoff to the DC Tillman Water Reclamation Plant and increase recycled water used for groundwater recharge. Nature-based project elements such as bioswales and tree wells will be installed upstream of the diversion structures to capture flow, provide for natural infiltration and generate new habitats that will improve biodiversity and expand the tree canopy in these communities. The estimated capital cost is \$32 million.

DWP has identified the following projects for potential submission, as previously discussed:

- Whitsett Fields Park North - located in Council District 2, \$9.2 million estimated capital cost
- Alexandria Park – located in Council District 2, \$7.2 million estimated capital cost
- Silver Lake Stormwater Capture – located in Council District 13, \$4.7 million estimated capital cost

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

There is no impact to the General Fund as the funding for these projects, if approved, will be provided by the Measure W, Safe, Clean Water Program, Regional Program administered by the County of Los Angeles Flood Control District.

FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT

The recommendations in this report are in compliance with the City's Financial Policies.

RHL:SMB:10210133

Attachment A – Regional Projects Round 3

City of Los Angeles (Bureau of Sanitation) SCWP Round 3 Project Submissions

No	Council District	Project Name (Project Developer)	Program	FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26-27	TOTAL*
Watershed Area – Central Santa Monica Bay									
1	8	Angeles Mesa Neighborhood Green Street Network Project (LASAN)	Infrastructure - WQ	2,748,200	2,748,200	2,748,200	2,748,200	2,748,200	13,741,000
Watershed Area – South Santa Monica Bay									
2	15	Machado Lake Ecosystem Rehabilitation Operations and Maintenance (LASAN)	Infrastructure - O&M	1,140,000	1,140,000	1,140,000	1,140,000	1,140,000	5,700,000
3	15	Wilmington Anaheim Green Infrastructure Network Project (LASAN)	Infrastructure - WQ	2,240,000	2,240,000	2,240,000	2,240,000	2,240,000	11,200,000
Watershed Area – Upper Los Angeles River									
4	13	Echo Park Lake Rehabilitation O&M (LASAN)	Infrastructure - O&M	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	2,400,000
5	14	Hollenbeck Park Lake Rehabilitation and Stormwater Management Project (LASAN)**	Infrastructure - WQ	6,000,000	6,000,000	6,000,000	6,000,000	6,000,000	30,000,000
6	3, 12	LA River Runoff Mitigation Infrastructure Project (LASAN)	Infrastructure - WQ	6,400,000	6,400,000	6,400,000	6,400,000	6,400,000	32,000,000
			Total	19,008,200	19,008,200	19,008,200	19,008,200	19,008,200	95,041,000

*These are preliminary project costs and cash flows that will be revised based on final designs and expected annual expenditures.

**Contingent upon a funding commitment by CalTrans as noted in the report.