

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE**

Date: May 22, 2025

To: Measure W: Safe, Clean Water Program Administrative Oversight Committee  
Matthew Szabo, City Administrative Officer  
Sharon Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst  
Randall Winston, Office of the Mayor

From: Michael Scaduto, PE, ENV SP, *Michael Scaduto* Digitally signed by Michael Scaduto  
Principal Engineer Date: 2025.05.22 08:51:59-07'00'  
Safe, Clean Water Implementation Division  
LA Sanitation & Environment

**Subject: Round 7 (FY 26/27) Safe, Clean Water Community Proposed Project Proposal Evaluation for a Letter of Non-Objection from the City of Los Angeles - Culver Median Stormwater Infrastructure Feasibility Study (CD 11) by Del Rey Neighborhood Council**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Approve the recommendation by LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN) for the Measure W: Safe, Clean Water Program Administrative Oversight Committee (AOC) to issue a Letter of Non-Objection to Del Rey Neighborhood Council's submission of the Culver Median Stormwater Infrastructure Feasibility Study to the Safe, Clean Water Regional Technical Resources Program (TRP).
2. Authorize LASAN and the City Administrative Officer, with the concurrence of the Chief Legislative Analyst and the Mayor's Office, to draft and issue a Letter of Non-Objection for the project.

**BACKGROUND**

The Safe, Clean Water Regional TRP application process recommends community proposed project applicants, such as Del Rey Neighborhood Council, to include a Letter of Non-Objection from the municipality in which the project is proposed. The Letter of Non-Objection issued by the City of Los Angeles (City) summarizes the identified need for the project, the project's benefits to the City, and emphasizes the future need for detailed operation and maintenance plans.

Del Rey Neighborhood Council is requesting a Letter of Non-Objection from the City for the Culver Median Stormwater Infrastructure Feasibility Study (Project) located northeast of Marina Del Rey along Culver Blvd. in the Central Santa Monica Bay watershed. Del Rey Neighborhood Council (Project Proponent) is a City of Los Angeles certified organization that advocates for the increase of community influence in City

governance and decision making processes, such as prioritization of issues in the Del Rey Neighborhood.

The Project Proponent intends to submit this application as part of the Round 7 Regional Safe, Clean Water TRP to the Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area, due on July 31, 2025. The Project Proponent hopes to develop the remaining technical details of the Project using Regional TRP funds and potentially apply for future Regional Infrastructure Program funding in future Safe, Clean Water funding rounds.

The Project proposes stormwater capture through the implementation of permeable asphalt paths, bioswales, and decomposed granite paths. Stormwater will enter a biofiltration BMP and potentially contribute towards water quality improvements in the Ballona Creek Watershed. The Project also proposes improvements such as providing necessary alternatives to vehicular driving and reliance on mass transit, access to clean and safe bike routes, reducing reliance on gas-powered vehicular modes, improving air quality, reducing the vehicle space occupied on roads and properties, offering safer & pollution free mobility, more pollution-absorbing trees, more native and adaptable plantings that provide shade, integration of stormwater capture to provide onsite irrigation, and other recreational benefits.

At this time, the Project Proponent has not provided detailed information for total cost estimation, specific BMP implementation, or the hydrology pertaining to the proposed amount of stormwater captured, treated, and retained by the Project. The requested details for the Project will be developed in the feasibility study development using TRP funds.

## **CONSIDERATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS**

LASAN leads City efforts to review requests for letters of support or non-objection for the Safe Clean Water Regional Program. As part of the review process, LASAN coordinated and received feedback from various stakeholders: including the project proponents, watershed coordinators, other City departments, and the City's Safe, Clean Water Program Working Group (Working Group), to make final recommendations for the AOC to consider. In the review of this specific request, and in alignment with the *City's Policies and Procedures for Review of Safe, Clean Water Program Community Proposed Projects*, it was determined that:

- The Project generally aligns with Safe, Clean Water Program guidelines and provides potential benefits of water quality, water supply, and community investment benefits.
- The Project is proposed in an area of the City that is not currently addressed by existing water quality projects mitigating runoff and may contribute towards the City's compliance of Ballona Creek Bacteria and Metals Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs).
- The Project has strong community support from various stakeholders.
- The Project will need to establish clear plans for operation and maintenance, permitting and right of way ownerships, detailed cost estimates, and other

technical details during the feasibility study development process, if approved for TRP funding.

Therefore, LASAN recommends that the AOC supports a Letter of Non-Objection to Del Rey Neighborhood's submission of the Project to the Central Santa Monica Bay's Safe, Clean Water Regional Round 7 (FY 26/27) Technical Resources Program. LASAN will continue to coordinate with and provide input to the Project Proponent to ensure that the scope continues to support the goals of the City and SCWP both before application and after potential funding is received. This letter should not be interpreted as a letter of support for any future Infrastructure Program funding requests. It is strongly recommended that any City agency (StreetsLA, LASAN, LADOT, etc) that may be affected by the proposed scope developed in the TRP be included in the development of the feasibility study. The City will carefully consider updated information for any potential future funding requests to the Safe, Clean Water Program for this effort.

#### Attachment 1: Project Summary

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## **ATTACHMENT 1: Project Summary - Del Rey NC Culver Median Improvement**

### **Recommend Letter of Non-Objection:**

The City of Los Angeles, Safe Clean Water Program Working Group recommends to issue a Letter of Non-Objection.

### **Brief Description**

The Del Rey Neighborhood Council (DRNC) in partnership with Ballona Creek Renaissance (BCR) intends to apply for TRP funding for the Culver Median LA project by July 31, 2025. At this time we are simply requesting a Letter of Non-Objection from the City of LA. The project would involve stormwater capture and above ground improvements along the Culver Median in the portion that runs within the City of LA. We do not yet have a detailed project description, maps or plans. The project would be similar to the Culver City Culver Blvd Realignment and Stormwater project that was completed in 2022. This project would create a similar project on the City of Los Angeles side of the Culver Blvd Median but without the street realignment.

### **Surrounding Site Conditions & Key Factors**

- Land Ownership:
  - City-owned: 100%
- Located in a disadvantaged community
- Project site **in** a liquefaction zone
- Project site **not** in a hillside grading area
- O&M - Culver Median currently under MOU between the City and Metro.

### **Preliminary Hydrology**

- Groundwater Basin: Coastal Plain of Los Angeles - Santa Monica Basin: Medium Priority
- 85th Percentile, 24-Hour Storm rainfall depth: 1.1 inches
- Groundwater Depth: 14-35 feet along project area

### **Cost Breakdown**

- No cost estimate is readily available
- For reference, the City of Culver City's Culver Median Project cost was approximately \$14,000,000

### **Technical Factors that TRP Feasibility Study Should Consider Before Project**

#### **Implementation**

- Detailed operations, maintenance, and monitoring plans/agreements
- BMP specifications and hydrologic technical breakdown
- Water supply benefits and mechanism
- Drainage area delineations
- Updated total project cost estimate and total funding request
- Permitting and right-of-way designations