

**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 08:58:11-07'00'
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 - Eucalyptus Grove: Silver Lake Reservoir Stormwater Capture Project (CD 4 and 13) by the Silver Lakes Reservoirs Conservancy

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve the recommendation by LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN) and the Department of Water and Power (DWP) for the Silver Lakes Reservoirs Conservancy to secure DWP approval prior to submission for future funding from the Safe Clean Water Infrastructure Program.

BACKGROUND

The Safe, Clean Water Regional TRP application process recommends community proposed project applicants, such as the Silver Lakes Reservoirs Conservancy to include a Letter of Non-Objection from the municipality in which the project is proposed. A Letter of Non-Objection issued by the City of Los Angeles (City) would summarize the identified need for the project, the project's benefits to the City, and emphasize the future need for detailed operation and maintenance plans.

The Silver Lakes Reservoir Conservancy has requested a Letter from the City for the Eucalyptus Grove: Silver Lake Reservoir Stormwater Capture Project (Project) located in Council District 4, near the district boundary of Council District 13, and at the western boundary of the Silver Lake Reservoir in the Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area. The Silver Lakes Conservancy (Project Proponent) is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that fosters and reflects community input to enhance and maintain the ecological, cultural, aesthetic, and recreational benefits of Silver Lake's reservoirs and surrounding open space. The Project Proponent intends to submit this application as part of the Round 7 Safe, Clean Water Regional IP to the Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Area, due on July 31, 2025.

In order to receive a Letter of Non-Objection from the City for Round 7, and in alignment with the City's *Policies and Procedures for Safe Clean Water Program Community-Proposed Projects*, LASAN distributed a formal Invitation to Collaborate letter on August 24th, 2024, noting that any Project Proponents were requested to submit a collaboration request intake form by October 31st, 2024. LASAN received a project intake form on May 14th, 2025. LASAN staff is reviewing the submitted request along with the associated technical information and will require additional time to complete this assessment. In conducting an initial review neither LASAN nor the DWP Watershed Management Group were aware of the proposed project elements on DWP property and neither were involved in the preparation of the TRP application to the Safe, Clean Water Regional Program.

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 coordinates and receives feedback from various stakeholders: including the project proponents, watershed coordinators, other City departments, and the City's Safe, Clean Water Program Working Group, to make final recommendations for the Administrative Oversight Committee (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.
- The Project may provide some water quality benefits but is not located in an area that would yield major progress towards TMDL compliance in the Ballona Creek watershed.
- The Project has strong community support from various stakeholders.
- The Project Proponent has not engaged the Department of DWP or LASAN during the preparation of the TRP application and has not secured approval from the DWP.
- Operation and Maintenance responsibilities have not been addressed.

LASAN and DWP recommend that the Project Proponent secure DWP approval prior to submission for future funding from the Safe Clean Water Infrastructure Program.

cc:	Patty Huber, CAO	Jacqueline Wagner, CAO
	Janice Chang Yu, CAO	Hermineh Amijanian, CAO
	Rafael Prieto, CLA	Blayne Sutton-Wills, CLA
	Virginia Wei, MO	Barbara Romero, LASAN
	Julie Allen, LASAN	Susie Santilena, LASAN
	Delon Kwan, DWP	Art Castro, DWP
	Darryl Ford, RAP	