



October 5, 2020

Safe Clean Water Program
Scoring Committee Watershed Steering Committee
Regional Committee Watershed Steering Com
Central Santa Monica Bay Watershed Steering Committee

SUBJECT: Support for The Ballona Creek TMDL Project in the Santa Monica Bay Stormwater Investment Plan FY 21/22

Safe Clean Water Committee Members,

7th Generation Advisors respectfully submits this letter of support to fund the Ballona Creek TMDL Project as part of the Santa Monica Bay Stormwater Investment Plan for FY 21/22.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Water Quality Control Board have identified numerous beneficial uses within the Ballona Creek Watershed. Its protection is critical to Los Angeles.

The Ballona Creek TMDL Project is critically important to achieve the goals and objectives of the Safe Clean Water Program and the Regional Infrastructure Program, while providing much needed benefits to the region's community.

This project can uniquely address the challenging numeric water quality targets of the Ballona Creek, the Ballona Estuary and the Sepulveda Channel Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load. This Project was modeled and incorporated in the Ballona Creek Enhanced Watershed Management Program and approved by the Regional Water Quality Control Board to meet bacteria water quality standards for the vast majority of the days in a year.

The water quality improvements will support wildlife in the wetlands, creeks and estuary including dozens of endangered and migratory birds that will thrive in revitalized water bodies. Moreover, when completed this project will support the health and welfare of the public and create enhanced recreation including educational, green open spaces, fishing, bicycling, boating, hiking and walking – so many community benefits for LA.

7th Generation Advisors highly recommends the funding of the Ballona Creek TMDL Project. We respectfully request that members of the Safe Clean Water Committees approve this project within the Santa Monica Bay Stormwater Investment Plan for FY 21/22.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Portia P. Cohen".

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