

**Regional Phase I MS4 NPDES Permit
Order No. R4-2021-0105
NPDES No. CAS004004**

**Watershed Management Program Progress Report Form
Reporting Period 1/1/2023 - 6/30/2023**

Watershed Management Program Name	City of El Monte Watershed Management Program (Ind)
Participating Permittee(s)	City of El Monte
Date of Watershed Management Program Progress Report	12/15/2023
Initial Approval Date of Watershed Management Program (according to Table 12 or Part IX.G.3 of the Order)	4/28/2015 (revised 6/30/2021)

Note that Permittees will not be able to propose modifications to their WMP in the Watershed Management Program Progress Report Form. Any modification(s) shall be requested in writing explaining the nature of the proposed modification and justification for consideration by the Los Angeles Water Board [*Order – IX.C and IX.E.2*].

1.1 Watershed Control Measure Milestone Progress. Summarize the progress on all Watershed Control Measure requirements and dates for their achievement (milestones) identified in your WMP that were required to be achieved by the end of this Reporting Period. The milestones for specific projects may be reported as cumulative number of projects to be implemented (e.g., “Recipes for Compliance”; installation of prescribed volume of BMP capacity by a certain date; Percent Load Reduction of bacteria pollutant by a certain date), cumulative storm volume addressed¹ by control measures (e.g., LID, new/re-development projects, regional projects), or other metric. However, progress must be reported as percent completion of the selected milestone metric. If any milestones were not achieved, give a clear description of the action/milestone, explain the delay in control measure implementation, and provide the revised action/milestone. The summary must also include a list of (a) Permittees and non-Permittees collaborated with for achievement of milestones, (b) funding sought, (c) funding obtained, (d) technical assistance received (e.g., through the Safe Clean Water Program Watershed Area Steering Committee), (e) additional local community co-benefits such as clean streets (including, without limitation, street sweeping, litter abatement, etc.), more parks and green spaces, reduced heat island effect, reduced flooding, water supply augmentation, neighborhood beautification, and job creation, and (f) other co-benefits and resources accruing to disadvantaged communities as identified on CalEnviroScreen². The format for this item is a text box but you are encouraged to provide this information in an appropriate format as an attachment with spreadsheets, graphs, and/or other elements that would concisely convey the required information.

The City of El Monte submitted an updated Watershed Management Program (WMP) to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) on June 30, 2021. The City is currently working with the Regional Board to address Regional Board and has responded to the first set of comments received from the Regional Water Board and recently received a Conditional Approval Letter and the City is currently addressing the comments of that letter.

The following sections provide a summary of (a) Permittees (the City of El Monte) and non-Permittees collaborated with, (b) funding sought, (c) funding obtained, (d) technical assistance received (e.g., through the Safe Clean Water Program Watershed Area Steering Committee), (e) additional local community co-benefits such as street cleaning (including, without limitation, street sweeping, litter abatement, etc.), more parks and green spaces, reduced heat island effect, reduced flooding, water supply augmentation, neighborhood beautification, and job creation, and (f) other co-benefits and resources accruing to disadvantaged communities as identified on CalEnviroScreen.

a. Permittees and non-permittees' collaboration

The City has collaborated with other permittees and non-permittees. The City recently collaborated with neighboring cities (permittees) on a Regional Infiltration Rate Study. Non-permittees that the City has worked with include water quality consultants including CWE, John L. Hunter & Associates, CASC Engineering and Consulting, Craftwater, Paradigm Environmental, and Alta Planning and Design. The City has also worked with the Trust for Public Land (TPL), the Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) USGR

¹ Includes the volume of water captured, infiltrated, retained, treated, diverted or otherwise addressed by a watershed control measure.

² <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen>

and Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinators, ActiveSGV, Amigos de los Rios, the USGR WMP and the Rio Hondo SGR WMP Groups for shared monitoring. The City has also worked with neighboring cities regarding stakeholders (including the public) during development of WMP projects.

b. Funding sought

The City has sought project funding from its own General Fund, the SCWP Municipal Program, Clean California Grant Program, and Block Grants.

c. Funding obtained

The City obtained funding in the amount of \$4.0 million for the Garvey Avenue Grade Separation Drainage Improvement Project through the SCWP Regional Program. This funding will provide for a portion of the construction costs associated with the project. Mobilization has begun and construction is planned to begin in Spring of 2024.

The SCWP Transfer Agreement “Exhibit A” for the Zamora Park Renovation Project was approved on 10/17/2023. The project is being led by the Trust for Public Land and it received funding from the SCW Regional Program in the amount of \$2.0 million on November 27, 2023. In addition, the Zamora Park Renovation Project has received \$750,000 from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. The general contractor prequalification process has been completed and the construction bid advertisement will be released soon with construction anticipated to start in the Winter of 2024.

The Merced Avenue Stormwater Capture Project was awarded \$9.8M from the SCWP and it is in the planning/design stage with an estimated start in the Spring of 2026. Additionally, it has received \$4.6 million from Caltrans from the Clean California Grant Program.

Funding from Measure M, Measure R, Proposition C, and RMC Grants also helped fund the City’s projects.

d. Technical assistance received (e.g., through the Safe Clean Water Program Watershed Area Steering Committee)

The City is currently not receiving SCWP Technical Assistance for any projects. Regarding the El Zamora Park Renovation Project grading and LID plan checking, they are almost completed and the city public works department will be approving them soon.

e. Additional local community co-benefits

Clean Streets

Clean streets are an important part of a community. The City realizes that the removal of dirt, debris, and litter through street sweeping is a proven and effective way to reduce pollutants that may enter the storm drain system. The City implements enhanced street sweeping and litter abatement on an on-going basis and at a frequency greater than MS4 Permit minimum requirements. Catch basin trash excluders were installed city-wide in 2016. In addition, the City collects trash from the trash receptacles at bus stops throughout the City. The catch basins are checked periodically and cleaned twice per year.

Parks and green space

The City is continually planning and designing stormwater capture projects that include green space in order to increase the amount of park and green space areas. These parks and green spaces provide vital areas for recreation as well as help to mitigate stormwater runoff and improve air quality.

The City's Lambert Park Improvement Project included a new concession/restroom/office building, new playgrounds, a promenade, a courtyard, lighting and electrical upgrades, an exercise/fitness area, new grass bioswales, and other landscape/irrigation improvements. The bioswales were designed and constructed to capture onsite run-off and promote groundwater recharge through infiltration to minimize the amount of runoff discharging into the Rio Hondo. The project also included the installation of new trees to provide additional shade and improve local air quality which improves heat island effect while enhancing local air quality. This project is located in a disadvantaged community (DAC) offering multiple benefits to park users of all ages.

The City and the Trust for Public Land are collaborating on the Zamora Park Renovation Project which will include approximately 112 new trees as well as numerous other native plants and shrubs. The Merced Avenue Stormwater Capture Project will include a collection of outdoor spaces that can be used for play, relaxation, picnicking, and socializing in areas consisting of natural landscapes. The project received funding through the SCWP Regional Program in the amount of \$2.0 million. The SCWP Transfer Agreement "Exhibit A" for the Zamora Project has been approved.

The City began an Arbor Day tree planting initiative in 2017 and approximately 350 trees were planted as part of the annual effort. The City also has an Urban and Community Forestry Management Plan Manual and uses it to support nature and habitat, promote improved public health, promote improved air quality, and promote reduced runoff. Similarly, the City's Zamora Park Renovation Project will include the planting of approximately 112 new trees along the perimeter of the walking paths and bioswales. The addition of these trees, bioswales, and landscaped areas with native and drought tolerant plants will help combat heat island effect.

Reduce local flooding

Projects throughout the City are being designed to capture and infiltrate runoff and reduce the risk of local flooding by allowing stormwater to infiltrate into the soil.

The Garvey Avenue Project will capture stormwater runoff from nearby storm drains and provide for the infiltration of that runoff during rain events. This project will eliminate local flooding in the area as well as provide for some limited groundwater recharge. The construction mobilization has begun, and construction is planned to begin in Spring of 2024.

The City's planned Merced Avenue Stormwater Capture Project will also capture stormwater runoff from nearby storm drains and provide for the infiltration of that runoff during rain events. This project will reduce local flooding in the area as well as provide for some limited groundwater recharge.

The City's planned Meeker Avenue Storm Drain Improvement Project will address on-going localized flooding. This activity would eliminate the localized flooding, capture both wet weather and dry weather flows, infiltrate polluted runoff, and promote groundwater recharge. The project is in Design and additional details and date of completion will be provided in subsequent progress reports.

The City's planned Fineview Street Bio-swale Rehab Project will rehabilitate the existing rain gardens to increase capacity, improve infiltration, and upgrade the existing irrigation system and landscaping. The project will also provide neighborhood beautification in addition to improved water quality. Additional details and date of completion will be provided in subsequent progress reports.

La Madera Avenue Drainage Improvement Project will provide a new drainage system with BMPs to address localized flooding, improve water quality, and promote groundwater recharge. The project is in Design and additional details and date of completion will be provided in subsequent progress reports.

Water supply augmentation

Infiltration features incorporated into projects, such as bioswales, permeable or porous surfaces, rain gardens, and green street elements infiltrate stormwater runoff while enhancing recharge of groundwater supplies. The City's Garvey and Merced projects will provide for some limited groundwater recharge.

Neighborhood beautification

The City has a Streetscape Beautification Master Plan that provides guidance for streetscape elements in order to incorporate trees, plants, and climate resilient design treatments for all users. The plan assures that incorporated treatments will hold up over time

and are suited to the climate and scaled to match City resources. The plan goals are focused on enhancing safety, creating climate resiliency, reflecting a sense of place, simplifying maintenance, and creating visual cohesion.

The City's Zamora Park Renovation Project will include recreational and aesthetic improvements such as new exercise equipment and athletic field enhancements. The project will also consist of LID features such as bioswales and native plantings. New educational signage will be included throughout the park. The City and Trust for Public Land expect to start construction in the coming months.

The City provides a service for bulky item collection to ensure debris is collected and not allowed to remain in neighborhoods ultimately impacting water quality. Household hazardous and electronic waste are collected as part of annual collection events. Any abandoned household hazardous waste or E-Waste is collected by staff from the public right-of-way and taken to a holding area until a contractor can remove and dispose of them appropriately. The public may properly dispose of used motor oil and used filters via a network of certified collection centers.

Job creation

During construction, the Zamora Park Renovation Project will support workforce development through a partnership with the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC), providing hands-on training to at-risk and school-aged youth in landscaping, tree planting, and other green construction skills. The Trust for Public Land still plans to use the LACC if they are available, or possibly a different corps if not. The selection of a conservation corps will be determined in the next few months after a general contractor is selected. The City projects target all worker hiring program requirements intended to enhance local job growth.

f. Disadvantaged Community co-benefits

The implementation of projects with green infrastructure provides multiple benefits and it also promotes development that is sustainable, provides co-benefits, and it creates healthier communities.

The City's stormwater and park rehabilitation projects include stormwater infrastructure or infiltration features such as bioswales and green space within this DAC. These projects provide the DAC with park improvements, new drought resistant trees, landscaping, bike routes, walking paths, and improved lighting. The projects provide opportunities for passive and active recreation, safe and accessible paths for travel, amenities, and a sense of community. The projects promote sustainability through the use of native plants, nature-based materials, stormwater management, and increased urban forest canopy and shade thus reducing heat island effect in many parts of the city.

Renovation of the existing parks and the incorporation of green infrastructure into new projects will also increase community safety for the neighborhood by adding new features such as additional lighting and security cameras, creating a safer and more inviting environment for the DAC while reducing illicit activities. The incorporation of green space into projects will create usable, safe, and engaging spaces where community residents can gather, recreate, and connect with other community members.

1.2 Watershed Control Measures Completed. Complete Table 1a, on an Excel spreadsheet. Include all watershed control measures (aside from minimum control measures specified in Part VIII of the Order) in the Watershed Management Program completed since the effective date of the Order for Ventura County Permittees, since March 28, 2014, for the City of Long Beach, and since December 28, 2012, for other Los Angeles County Permittees. This table is cumulative—i.e., the table should include all the control measures completed from the time of the aforementioned dates to the end of this reporting period. Structural control measures as well as nonstructural control measures (e.g., enhanced MCMs such as incentive programs, outreach, and conservation programs, etc.) should be included in this table. If information is not available for a particular field, the field should indicate “Not Applicable” (N/A) [Order – IX].

Table 1a: Watershed Control Measures Completed*

Table 1a: Watershed Control Measures Completed

Project Name	Previous Project Name(s) if Changed	Permittee(s)	Subwatershed	Project Type	Description	Latitude	Longitude	Required Completion Date in WMP	Actual Completion Date	Capital Costs (\$)	Cumulative O&M Costs (\$)	Funding Source(s)	Project Footprint (Acres)	Drainage Area (Acres)	Projected Storage Capacity in WMP (Acre-feet)	Actual Storage Capacity (Acre-feet)	Cumulative Volume Addressed (Acre-feet)
Ramona Blvd/Valley Blvd Intersection Improvements	Not Applicable	El Monte	Rio Hondo (LAR)	Biofiltration system	Biofiltration	34.07251	-118.03258	Not Applicable	11/30/2021	\$4,100,000.00	Pending	Municipal General Fund	0.01 ac	0.50 ac	Not Applicable	0.02 ac-ft	Pending
Downtown Improvements	Not Applicable	El Monte	Rio Hondo (LAR)	Infiltration Gallery	LID Retrofit, Infiltration	34.07512	-118.03836	Not Applicable	9/30/2019	\$500,000.00	Pending	Municipal General Fund	1.00 ac	5.00 ac	Not Applicable	1.00 ac-ft	Pending
Lambert Park Improvements	Not Applicable	El Monte	Rio Hondo (LAR)	LID Retrofit, Biofiltration	Biofiltration	34.08744	-118.01994	Not Applicable	6/30/2019	\$400,000.00	Pending	Municipal General Fund	0.01 ac	6.00 ac	Not Applicable	0.03 ac-ft	Pending
Safe Routes to Schools, Cherrylee Elementary School	Not Applicable	El Monte	San Gabriel River	Green Street, Biofiltration	Bioswales	34.09497	-118.00859	Not Applicable	12/1/2017	\$44,000.00	Pending	Other Federal Program	0.01 ac	0.50 ac	Not Applicable	0.02 ac-ft	Pending
Safe Routes to Schools, Wilkerson Elementary School	Not Applicable	El Monte	Rio Hondo (LAR)	Green Street, Biofiltration	Bioswales	34.06275	-118.04453	Not Applicable	2/1/2016	\$44,000.00	Pending	Other Federal Program	0.01 ac	0.50 ac	Not Applicable	0.02 ac-ft	Pending
Safe Routes to Schools, Kranz Intermediate School	Not Applicable	El Monte	San Gabriel River	Green Street, Biofiltration	Porous gutter sections and Bioswales	34.04551	-118.02417	Not Applicable	1/1/2015	\$77,000.00	Pending	Other Federal Program	0.01 ac	0.50 ac	Not Applicable	0.03 ac-ft	Pending

1.2a) Additional Information. Provide additional information regarding the Watershed Control Measures completed (e.g., other compliance metrics and a list of (a) Permittees and non-Permittees collaborated with for achievement of milestones, (b) funding sought, (c) funding obtained, (d) technical assistance received (e.g., through the Safe Clean Water Program Watershed Area Steering Committee), (e) additional local community co-benefits such as clean streets (including, without limitation, street sweeping, litter abatement, etc.), more parks and green spaces, reduced heat island effect, reduced flooding, water supply augmentation, neighborhood beautification, and job creation, and (f) other co-benefits and resources accruing to disadvantaged communities as identified on CalEnviroScreen).

No additional information at this time.

1.3 Watershed Control Measures Planned and In Progress. Complete Table 1b, on an Excel spreadsheet. Include all watershed control measures (aside from minimum control measures specified in Part VIII of the Order) in the Watershed Management Program that are planned and in progress. Structural control measures as well as non-structural control measures (e.g., enhanced MCMs such as incentive programs, outreach and conservation programs, etc.) should be included in this table. If information is not available for a particular field, the field should indicate “Not Applicable” (N/A) [*Order – IX*].

Table 1b: Watershed Control Measures Planned and In Progress*

Table 1b: Watershed Control Measures Planned and In Progress

Project Name	Permittee(s)	Subwatershed	Project Type	Description	Latitude	Longitude	Required Completion Date in WMP	Estimated Completion Date	Estimated Capital Costs [\$]	Estimated Annual O&M Costs [\$]	Funding Source(s)	Project Footprint [Acres]	Drainage Area [Acres]	Projected Storage Capacity in WMP [Acre-feet]	Status
Citywide Street Sweeping	El Monte	Not Applicable	Enhanced Street Sweeping	Street Sweeping at frequency greater than permit requirements	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	6/30/2022	\$324,000.00	Not Applicable	Safe, Clean Water	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Implementation
Garvey Ave Grade Separation Drainage Improvement Project	El Monte	San Gabriel River	Regional Infiltration Gallery	Project will divert stormwater runoff into subsurface galleries	34.0632	-118.01561	Not Applicable	5/31/2025	\$8,500,000.00	\$100,000.00	Safe, Clean Water, Prop 68 FMPRA Grant, SB-1	2	78.00 ac	4.60 ac-ft	Construction
Zamora Park Renovation Project	El Monte	San Gabriel River	Biofiltration	Biofiltration, Bioswales	34.0718	-118.01111	Not Applicable	12/30/2024	\$6,100,000.00	\$26,000.00	Safe, Clean Water, Municipal General Fund, CA State Proposition 68, Other Municipal Program	2.5	4.50 ac	0.23 ac-ft	Construction Bid Phase. Construction Award in Jan 2024
Lambert Park Improvements Project	El Monte	Rio Hondo (LAR)	Biofiltration	Biofiltration, Bioswales	34.0874	-118.01994	Not Applicable	3/16/2021	\$5,100,000.00	\$5,000.00	Municipal General Fund	0.01 ac	5.00 ac	Not Applicable	Phase 1 Completed
Ramona Blvd Improvements	El Monte	San Gabriel River	Biofiltration	Biofiltration system	34.0753	-118.01255	Not Applicable	10/31/2022	\$3,100,000.00	\$5,000.00	Municipal General Fund; Measure R; STP-L; Proposition C; Traffic Congestion Relief Fund	0.01 ac	0.50 ac	Not Applicable	Completed
Merced Ave Stormwater Capture Project	El Monte	Rio Hondo (LAR)	Green Street, Biofiltration	Stormwater capture system, Biofiltration	34.0645	-118.05134	Not Applicable	4/1/2027	\$12,000,000.00	\$100,000.00	Safe, Clean Water (under consideration)	1.7	490.00 ac	8.00 ac-ft	Planning
Merced Ave Linear Park	El Monte	Rio Hondo (LAR)	Biofiltration	Biofiltration System	34.0644	-118.05133	Not Applicable	6/30/2024	\$4,700,000.00	\$75,000.00	Clean California Grant	2	2.10 ac	Not Applicable	Construction
Parkway Dr Improvements	El Monte	San Gabriel River	Biofiltration	Biofiltration system	34.0475	-118.01747	Not Applicable	12/31/2025	\$5,000,000.00	\$50,000.00	Municipal General Fund, ATP Grant, and Net Toll Grant	0.01 ac	0.50 ac	Not Applicable	Design
Arden Dr Improvements	El Monte	Rio Hondo (LAR)	Street Improvement	Infiltration Trench	34.0848	-118.04421	Not Applicable	12/31/2026	\$1,000,000.00	\$20,000.00	Local Measure M	TBD	TBD	Not Applicable	Design
Gibson Mariposa Park	El Monte	Rio Hondo (LAR)	Drainage Improvement	Bio-swale	34.0818	-118.04869	Not Applicable	6/30/2024	\$250,000.00	\$10,000.00	Quimby, General Funds, CDBG Grant	120 SF	0.05 ac	Not Applicable	Construction Bid Phase. Construction Award in Jan 2024
Fineview Street Bio-swale Rehab Project	El Monte	San Gabriel River	Drainage Improvement	Bio-swale	34.0458	-118.02388	Not Applicable	7/31/2025	\$50,000.00	\$3,000.00	Safe, Clean Water Municipal	1700 SF	TBD	Not Applicable	Re-habilitate existing. Project has not started. Need to develop Scope and advertise for Bids.
Meeke Avenue Storm Drain Improvement Project	El Monte	San Gabriel River	Drainage Improvement	Biofiltration system	34.0643	-118.02867	Not Applicable	12/31/2025	\$75,000.00	\$5,000.00	Safe, Clean Water Municipal	TBD	TBD	Not Applicable	Planning
La Madera Avenue Drainage Improvement Project	El Monte	San Gabriel River	Drainage Improvement	Biofiltration system	34.0988	-118.02849	Not Applicable	12/31/2025	\$350,000.00	\$25,000.00	Safe, Clean Water Municipal	2000 SF	0.89 ac	Not Applicable	Planning
LRS Infiltration areas (9 proposed locations)	El Monte	Rio Hondo (LAR)	LRS (Bacteria TMDL)	Infiltration, Porous Gutter	Various locations	Various locations	Not Applicable	6/30/2024	\$10,000.00	\$1,000.00	Safe, Clean Water Municipal	1500 SF	5.00 ac	Not Applicable	Implementation

1.3a) Additional Information. Provide additional information regarding the Watershed Control Measures planned and in progress (e.g., other compliance metrics and a list of (a) Permittees and non-Permittees collaborated with for achievement of milestones, (b) funding sought, (c) funding obtained, (d) technical assistance received (e.g., through the Safe Clean Water Program Watershed Area Steering Committee), (e) additional local community co-benefits such as clean streets (including, without limitation, street sweeping, litter abatement, etc.), more parks and green spaces, reduced heat island effect, reduced flooding, water supply augmentation, neighborhood beautification, and job creation, and (f) other co-benefits and resources accruing to disadvantaged communities as identified on CalEnviroScreen).

Please see Section 1.1 for the details of planned and in-progress Watershed Control Measures.

1.4 Water Body Pollutant Combination (WBPC) Compliance. Complete Table 1c on an Excel spreadsheet for all WBPCs identified in the Watershed Management Program. If information is not available for a particular field, the field should indicate “Not Applicable” (N/A) [Order – X].

Table 1c: WBPC Compliance

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WBPC Category (1, 2, or 3)	Pollutant	Receiving Water	Weather Condition (Wet, Dry, N/A)	Interim or Final	Deadline	Deadline Met? (Yes, No, N/A)	Method of Compliance
1	Trash	Los Angeles River	Wet	Final	2016	Yes	FCS/DGR
1	Trash	Legg Lake	Wet	Final	2016	Yes	FCS

1.5 Additional Information. Attach any additional information or reports pertinent to the WMP to this report. Provide a brief summary of these attachments below.

The Certification Statement is also attached to this WMP Progress Report Form.

The WMP Progress Report is posted on the City’s Official Website at:

<https://www.ci.el-monte.ca.us/538/NPDES-and-MS4>