

Santa Monica Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Meeting

JANUARY 15, 2025

Santa Monica Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Agenda – January 15, 2025

**Board of Directors
Santa Monica Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Agenda for January 15, 2025 at 9:00 AM**

Board of Directors			
Attending	Agency	Board Member	Alternate
	City of Beverly Hills	Robert Welch	Vince Damasse
	City of Culver City	Sean Singletary	
	City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	Jesus Gonzalez	John Huynh
	County of Los Angeles	Gina Natoli, Chair	
	City of Santa Monica	Sunny Wang, Vice Chair	

In addition to attending meetings in person, meetings may be viewed via Zoom. Please note that virtual attendance via Zoom is offered as a courtesy and that technical difficulties shall not require that a meeting be postponed. Instructions for attending meetings in person and virtually are provided below.

IN-PERSON PARTICIPATION

Santa Monica City Hall East, Room 219
1685 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401

Parking Instructions

Please note that the entrance to City Hall East is located on Olympic Boulevard next to (west from) the Public Safety Building at 333 Olympic Drive, Santa Monica, CA, 90401. Parking for City Hall East is located at Civic Center Parking Structure located at 333 Civic Center Drive, Santa Monica, CA 90401, across Olympic Blvd from City Hall East. Information and parking rates can be found online at:

<https://www.santamonica.gov/places/parking-lots/civic-center-parking-structure>

Instructions for In-Person Public Participation

If a member of the public is interested in speaking during the public comment portion of the Board meeting, please submit a speaking request via email to Lisette.Gold@santamonica.gov by 5:00 PM the day before the meeting and specify “in-person participation”. Your name, the agenda item number, agenda item title, and comment summary must be included in the email or the comment will not be added to the speaker list. At the start of each agenda item, the Secretary of the Board will read the names of those who have requested to speak in advance on an agenda item. All public comment outside of the Public Forum must be germane to the specific agenda item you have indicated.

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If you wish to comment on an item and have not submitted a public comment request prior to today's meeting, please do so now by filling out a public comment card request. Comment requests cards are available at the back of the room. On the request form, please include your name, comment summary and the agenda item number and title or the comment will not be added to the speaker list. Once you have filled out the request, you may submit it to the Secretary of the Board before the item is called. Public comment cards submitted after the start of the public comment period for the identified agenda item will not be added to the speaker list. At the start of each agenda item, the Secretary of the Board will read the names of those who have requested to speak on an agenda item.

VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION

Register in advance for this meeting by either clicking the link below or scanning the QR code:

<https://bit.ly/4gIHdVd>

Instructions for Virtual Public Participation

As a courtesy, the public is invited to attend the meeting virtually via Zoom. In order to have the opportunity to speak during the public comment portion of the Board meeting, please submit a speaking request via email to Lisette.Gold@santamonica.gov by 5:00 PM the day before the meeting and specify "virtual participation".

Your name, the agenda item number, agenda item title, and comment summary must be included in the email, or the comment will not be added to the speaker list. At the start of each agenda item, the Secretary of the Board will read the names of those who have requested to speak on an agenda item. All public comment outside of the Public Forum must be germane to the specific agenda item you have indicated.

Instructions for using ZOOM to Speak

After joining the meeting, please make sure you have audio and microphone capabilities enabled on your device. You may follow the prompts on the video version of ZOOM to test your speaker and microphone.

When your name has been called in the meeting, you will be invited to unmute, and you will unmute yourself and be able to speak for up to 3 minutes. When the time allotted to you has expired, you will be muted again.

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT

To submit a written public comment on agenda items, please email Lisette.Gold@santamonica.gov with your comment and specify "written public comment only." Please include your name, the agenda item number and agenda item title in the email. Your comment will be placed into the record and distributed appropriately.

BASIC GSA MEETING RULES

Public Comment

Members of the public have up to 3 minutes to speak on each item. In the interest of allowing enough time to cover the business on the agenda, please be advised that the Chair of the Board has the discretion to reduce the time limits for each speaker or the public comment period for each agenda item. When speaking, please state your name clearly for the record before beginning your remarks.

Materials handed in during the meeting will be uploaded to the website in a timely fashion after the meeting.

Rules of Conduct

The Board will only entertain comments that are civil. Anyone who makes derogatory comments or targets individuals, will be asked to sit down and given a warning by the Chair of the Board. The individual will be asked to leave by the Chair of the Board if they continue with disruptive conduct per SB 1100. No warning is required if the individual is using force or threatening to use force against someone.

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum**
- 4. Disclosure of ex parte communications for board members**
- 5. Consent Items**
 - A. Approval of Minutes from the October 16, 2024 Meeting

6. Public Forum

*This portion of the agenda may be utilized by any member of the public to address and ask questions of the Board of Directors on any matter **not on the agenda** within the jurisdiction of the Santa Monica Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency. Depending upon the subject matter, the Board of Directors may be unable to respond at this time, or until the specific item is placed on the agenda at a future Board meeting in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.*

7. Informational Items

- A. Quarterly update on new well permit applications in the Santa Monica Subbasin (standing item)

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- B. Discussion of Well Permitting Coordination Efforts between the SMBGSA and the County of Los Angeles
 - i. Report on the County’s groundwater production well permitting process and guidance
 - ii. Report on the discussion between GSA representatives and the County of Los Angeles - coordination for notification of permits for new groundwater wells, enlarging existing groundwater wells, and re-activation of abandoned groundwater wells
- C. Discussion of SMBGSA Well Verification Procedures Adopted April 19, 2023
 - i. Alignment with Executive Order N-3-2024
- D. Basin Boundary Modification Discussion
 - i. Report on the process for requesting a basin boundary modification
 - ii. Report on the overlying jurisdictional agencies within the Santa Monica Subbasin Recharge Area documented in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan
- E. Cost Sharing Discussion
 - i. Member agency reports on the status of the MOU for administrative cost sharing
 - ii. Report on implementation cost sharing examples from other GSAs
- F. Discussion of example GSA governance structures
- G. Review Groundwater Extraction Ordinance (continued from October 16, 2024 SMBGSA Board Meeting)

8. Action Items

- A. Election of new Chair and Vice-Chair
- B. Request for Board Support: Coordination between the City of Santa Monica and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) on site selection and funding for a new dedicated monitoring well in the Santa Monica Subbasin

9. Solicitation of Items to be Discussed at the Next Regular Board Meeting

10. Adjournment

5A

Approval of Minutes
from the October 16,
2024 Meeting

Board of Directors
Santa Monica Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
DRAFT Minutes for October 16, 2024 at 8:00 AM

Board of Directors			
Attending	Agency	Board Member	Alternate
	City of Beverly Hills	Robert Welch	Vince Damasse
	City of Culver City	Sean Singletary	
	City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	Jesus Gonzalez	John Huynh
	County of Los Angeles	Gina Natoli, Chair	
	City of Santa Monica	Sunny Wang, Vice Chair	

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:02am.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Dudek led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Chair Natoli, County of Los Angeles
 Vice Chair Wang, City of Santa Monica
 Director Welch, City of Beverly Hills
 Director Singletary, City of Culver City
 Director Huynh, City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

Director Huynh was joined via phone initially and joined physically at the meeting location at 8:12 AM.

4. Disclosure of ex parte communications for board members

There were no ex-parte communications to disclose.

5. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes from the July 17, 2024 Meeting

The Board had no comments on the minutes.

Motion by Director Wang, seconded by Director Welch to approve the meeting minutes as amended. A roll call vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Public Forum

Ms. Gray (Dudek) read a written public comment into the record.

7. Informational Items

A. Governor's Executive Order N-3-24

Dr. Jill Weinberger (Dudek, GSA consultant) presented on the Governor's Executive Order (EO) N-3-2024, which overrides and/or changes provisions in EO N-7-22 and EO N-3-23. This EO pertains to well permitting, specifically coordination between well permitting agencies and GSAs. Ms. Cola (City of Santa Monica) added that the GSA could request that staff bring back a resolution to be adopted at the next meeting. Vice Chair Wang stated that it would be wise to establish a formal agreement with the County surrounding the provisions of this EO, especially considering well permitting challenges and coordination surrounding the Los Angeles County Water Plan. Other Directors verbalized agreement. Chair Natoli noted that this item was considered at another GSA board meeting that she attended. Chair Natoli asked if it was possible for GSA verification to remain in place in light of EO N-3-24. Dr. Weinberger stated that she was not sure if a GSA consistency review could be completed by the County's turnaround deadline for approving permits. Chair Natoli requested a formal, standing quarterly report of the number of non-de minimum and de minimum well applications received and approved, and the beneficial use for these wells.

Director Welch asked if the GSA could ask for permits approved or permits under review. Dr. Weinberger stated that the County can provide information for both approved permits and permits under review. Dr. Gold stated that the County is referring prospective applicants to the GSA. Vice Chair Wang asked if the GSA consultant could provide a professional opinion surrounding well verification; however, Chair Natoli commented that this could create legal challenges if the consultant's opinion did not align with that of Environmental Health. Dr. Weinberger commented that the consultant could turnaround a professional opinion within the required timeframe but would need investigate Environmental Health's criteria for well permit approval. Susan Cola commented that the legal significance surrounding noticing is ambiguous; this is something that County counsel could discuss. Susan Cola also added that there is direction in the Water Code to require registration/measurements and a groundwater

ordinance would stand independent of the EO. Dr. Gold added further clarification that the GSA has its own well ordinance, separate from that of the City.

Director Singletary requested clarification surrounding Environmental Health's procedures surrounding well approval, which is generally subject to ministerial approval.

In summary, the Board gave direction to staff to further investigate/prepare the following items:

- 1) Formal coordination with County surrounding well permit applications, as they are received by the County;
- 2) How a consistency review could be incorporated into the approval process;
- 3) A summary of the procedures followed by the County of Los Angeles Department of Environmental Health when approving/rejecting a well permit application;
- 4) Review of the well verification procedures and linkage to the EO.
- 5) A standing, quarterly report outlining the number of de minimis, non-de minimis, and beneficial use well permit applications

No members of the public provided comment.

B. GSA Monitoring Wells

Dr. Weinberger presented information on the monitoring wells and relevant policies in the Subbasin. Vice Chair Wang noted that there has been collaboration with USGS over monitoring wells. Chair Natoli asked for clarification surrounding why the new monitoring well was placed in the seawater intrusion area, and Dr. Weinberger explained that this location was selected after discussions with USGS.

The Board provided direction for the GSA consultant to work with USGS to determine optimal locations for monitoring wells.

No members of the public provided comment.

C. Discuss the recharge area for the Santa Monica Subbasin

Dr. Weinberger provided an overview of recharge areas within the basin. Vice Chair Wang asked if there is desire to coordinate with DWR on increasing recharge areas. San Cola clarified that the request for a boundary revision doesn't need to come from the GSA; however, it may help for the GSA to work in concert.

The Board provided direction for the GSA consultant to conduct further research on the extent of the recharge area/jurisdictional boundaries, and the process for incorporating the recharge area into the basin boundaries.

No members of the public provided comment.

- D. Cost Sharing Discussion (continued from July 17, 2024 SMBGSA Board Meeting)
 - i. Legal Costs
 - ii. Implementation Costs
 - iii. Administrative Costs

Dr. Weinberger presented the cost sharing responsibilities outlined in the draft MOU. For Administrative Costs, responsibilities are as follows: City of Los Angeles pays 20%; County of Los Angeles pays 20%; City of Beverly Hills pays 2%, City of Culver City pays 10%; City of Santa Monica pays 48%. Susan Cola explained that the draft MOU was very close to being completed and was undergoing final edits/formatting changes. The member entities agreed to obtain approval on the draft MOU and then bring it to the GSA Board for final approval.

Implementation and Litigation costs were not discussed at the previous meeting. Dr. Weinberger discussed a cost sharing proposal where pumpers would cover Implementation costs. Litigation costs would be determined by individual agencies after litigation is filed.

The Board provided direction for the GSA consultant to research and present on Implementation cost share structures from other GSAs where pumpers cover costs.

No members of the public provided comment.

8. Action Items

- A. Review Groundwater Extraction Ordinance (continued from July 17, 2024 SMBGSA Board Meeting)

Dr. Weinberger explained red line edits were made to the Ordinance in response to Board feedback, except for two items:

- 1) Dr. Weinberger advised that the definition of “extraction facility” remain as is because this is a term defined in SGMA.
- 2) Dr. Weinberger advised that groundwater elevation monitoring not be included in the Ordinance because this ordinance focuses on extraction, not elevation monitoring.

Vice Chair Wang suggested that the Board agree upon a date for the Ordinance to go into effect. The Board requested additional information regarding the number of pumpers that would be impacted by this Ordinance. Ms. Cola clarified that the Ordinance would be enforced by individual jurisdictions because the GSA does not have the authority to enforce this ordinance. Chair Natoli suggested the removal of the term “Water Year”.

Motion by Chair Natoli, seconded by Director Huynh to move this item to the January meeting where clarification would be provided on the issues raised by the Directors. The motion was seconded by Direction Huyn and carried unanimously.

No members of the public provided comment.

9. Solicitation of Items to be Discussed at the Next Regular Board Meeting

Counsel commented that there should have been an election at this meeting and should be agendized for the next meeting. Chair Natoli raised concerns surrounding the efficacy and efficiency of the GSA. Vice Chair Wang requested that the GSA consultant make suggestions as to how the GSA could operate more efficiently, perhaps using other governance structures. Counsel noted that this was something they should analyze.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08am.

6

Public Comment

7A

Quarterly Update: New Well Permit Applications in the Santa Monica Subbasin

7A

New Well Permit Applications

- The County has not notified the GSA secretary of any well permit applications within the Santa Monica Subbasin since the October 16 meeting.

7B

Well Permitting Coordination Efforts

7B

Well Permitting Coordination Efforts

Background:

- The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health issues well permits for new wells in the Santa Monica Subbasin
- Under Executive Order N-7-22 and subsequently N-3-23, well permitting agencies and GSAs were required to coordinate to ensure new well applications were “not inconsistent” with groundwater sustainability plans
- Executive order N-3-24 terminates these additional requirements
- At the October 16, 2024 meeting, the Board requested that the staff:
 - Provide an overview of the County's role and responsibility in permitting new water wells
 - Coordinate with the Department of Public Health to discuss coordination between the County and the GSA on well permits

7B

Well Permitting Coordination Efforts

Role of the Department of Public Health, Environmental Health, Drinking Water Program:

- Responsible for regulating well construction and decommission including:
 - Reviewing, approving, inspecting, and permitting the construction or decommissioning of private, commercial, public or municipal water wells, monitoring wells, or soil borings within Los Angeles County
 - Approving work plans for construction and decommissioning of private water wells and monitoring wells within Los Angeles County
- For new well construction, applicants must provide:
 - Written narrative describing the work plan details based on site specific conditions
 - Well diagram detailing depth, size, thickness, and materials of the casing, annular seal, well screen, and pertinent geological features
 - Scaled drawings of pertinent features within 200 feet of the well

7B

Well Permitting Coordination Efforts

Role of the Department of Public Health, Environmental Health, Drinking Water Program (continued):

- The requirements for well construction are provided by the County and include:
 - The minimum depth and thickness of the annular seal
 - Placement of material into the borehole or annular space
 - Construction of the concrete surface completion of the well
 - Process for perforating and sealing wells screened across multiple aquifers
- Properties in certain areas have additional requirements (approval from LA County Department of Regional Planning or the health department of Long Beach, Pasadena, or Vernon)
- Generally, approval is limited to compliance with the California Well Standards and Los Angeles County Code

What is not included?

- Review of proposed pumping volume, expected drawdown, consistency with the GSPs throughout the County

7B

Well Permitting Coordination Efforts

Coordination between the County of Los Angeles and the Santa Monica GSA:

- On December 3, 2024 Director Wang, Dr. Gold (secretary of the GSA), and Dr. Weinberger (Dudek) met with representatives from the County of Los Angeles Drinking Water Program to discuss coordination between local agencies on well permit reviews
- Key Takeaways:
 - The County is working with all groundwater sustainability agencies, and other responsible management entities, within its jurisdiction
 - The County and the Santa Monica Groundwater Basin GSA have a strong working relationship
 - Compliance with the intent of SGMA is a shared goal

7C

SMBGSA Well Verification Procedures

Background:

- April 26, 2023 - Board approved well verification procedures and a checklist for applicants to fill out to request a consistency review
- Procedures were developed to determine consistency of new well installations with the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Subbasin
- Well permitting agencies had additional requirements to coordinate with GSAs under Executive Order N-7-22 and subsequently N-3-23
- Executive order N-3-24 terminates these additional requirements
- Board requested review of well verification procedures to determine dependencies on Executive Orders N-7-22 and N-3-23

Findings of the Review:

- The well verification procedures do not cite and are not dependent on Executive Order N-3-23
- The “New or Replacement Groundwater Production Well Form” or “Well Permit application Checklist,” which was to be submitted with a well permit application, does cite executive order N-3-23

- The New or Replacement Groundwater Production Well Form:

SANTA MONICA BASIN GSA

New or Replacement Groundwater Production Well Form

The Santa Monica Subbasin of the Coastal Plain of Los Angeles Groundwater Basin (DWR Basin No. 4-011.1) has been designated by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) as a medium-priority basin that is subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Any new well or replacement well permit that is not exempt from the Governor's Executive Order N-3-23¹ cannot be approved by the County of Los Angeles ("County") without review of its consistency with the sustainable groundwater management program established by the SMBGSA in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Santa Monica Subbasin.

This form must be completed, signed, and submitted by the Property Owner with each well permit application for a new or replacement well in the Santa Monica Subbasin before the well can be approved by the County of Los Angeles. Additionally, the SMBGSA requires that the Property Owner prepare and submit a hydrogeologic report on the new or replacement well(s). The contents of this report are outlined on page two of this form and are available on the GSA website: <https://www.santamonica.gov/gsp>.

Property Owner Information (Applicant to Fill Out)

Name: _____ Date: _____
Last *First* *M.I.*

7C

SMBGSA Well Verification Procedures

Options:

- Delete language citing Executive Order N-3-23 and requiring submittal of form with the well permit application
 - Still require new well applicants to fill out the form for the GSA
 - This does not change the requirement in the New and Replacement Well Procedures to provide a hydrogeologic report
- Delete the New or Replacement Groundwater Production Well Form entirely
 - New / replacement well owners will still be required to prepare a hydrogeologic report
- Board discussion

7D

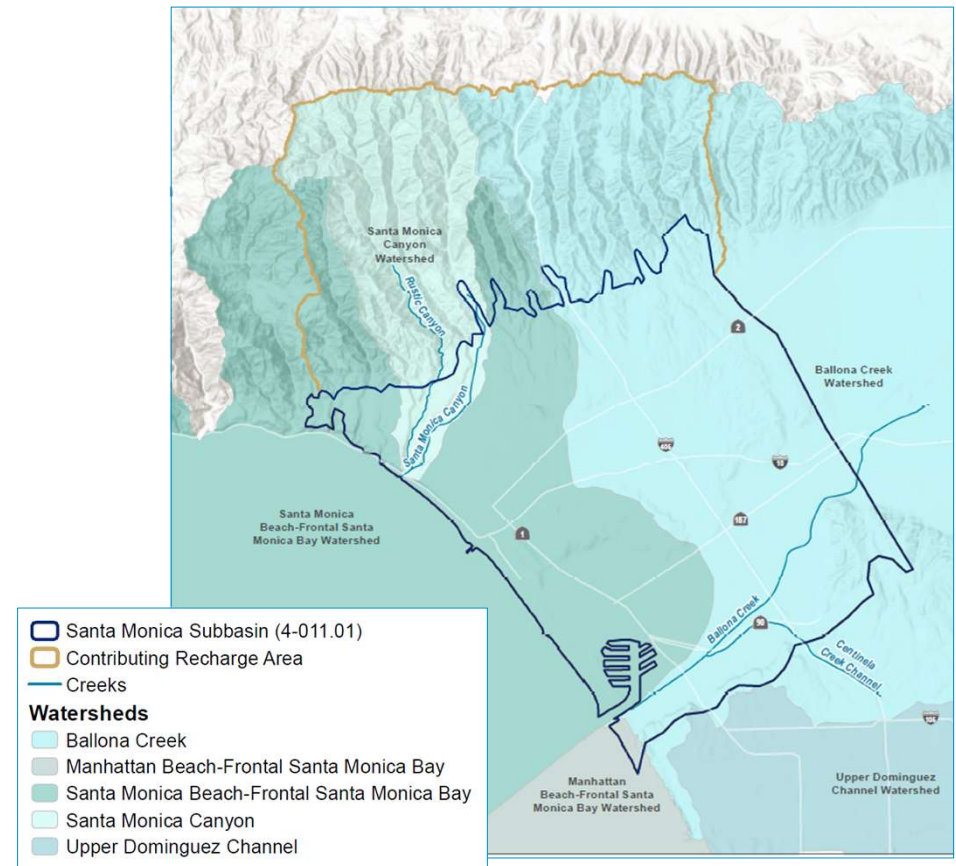
Basin Boundary Modification

7D

Basin Boundary Modification

Background:

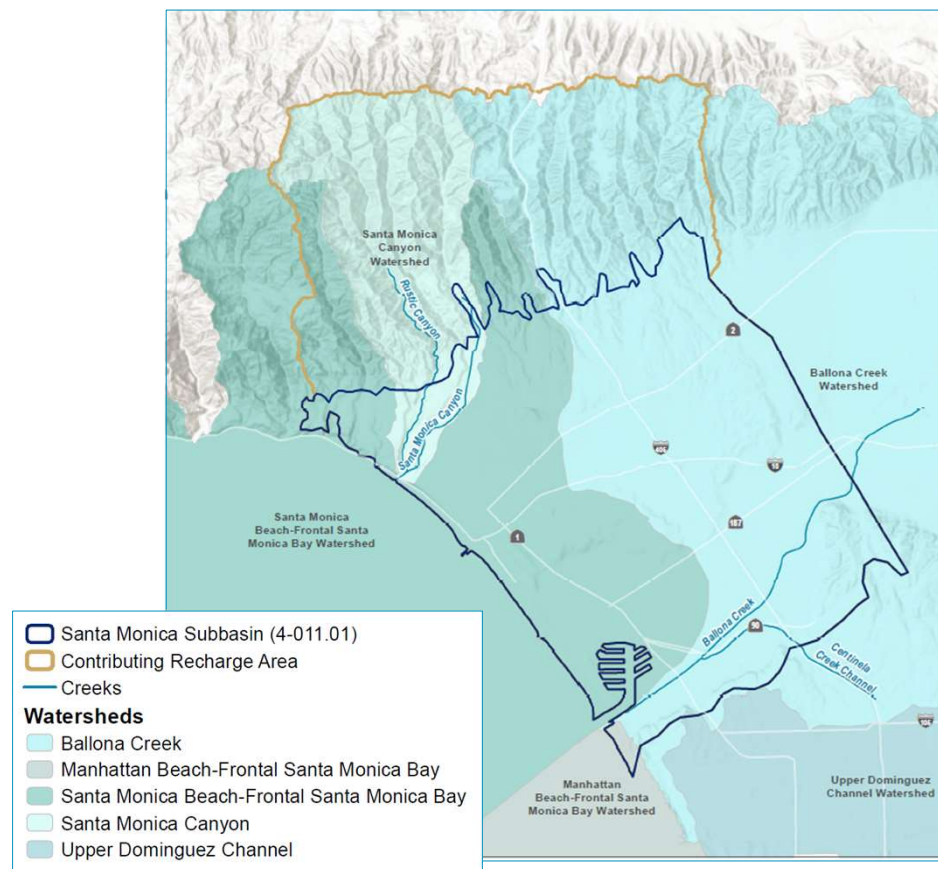
- The Santa Monica Subbasin (Subbasin) boundaries exclude the primary recharge area for the Subbasin, which is adjacent to and north of the Subbasin
- The recharge area for the Subbasin covers the majority of the contributing watersheds
- Development within this area could impact recharge to the Subbasin
 - Increased runoff on impermeable surfaces
 - Decreased subsurface recharge on the northern boundary



7D

Basin Boundary Modification

- DWR defines a groundwater basin as an “...aquifer or stacked series of aquifers with reasonably well-defined boundaries in a lateral direction, based on features that significantly impede groundwater flow, and a definable bottom...”
 - Title 23, Division 2, Chapter 1.5, Subchapter 1, Article 2, Section 341(g)(1) of the California Code of Regulations
- Agencies can change the boundaries of groundwater basins or subbasins for either scientific or jurisdictional reasons.
- DWR generally opens a submittal period during which they accept basin boundary modification requests.



7E

Cost Sharing

7E

Cost Sharing

- Member agency reports on the status of the MOU for administrative cost
- Implementation cost sharing examples from other GSAs

7F

GSA Governance Structures

7E

GSA Governance Structures

- All public agencies with water supply or other water management, or land use authority within a groundwater basin are eligible to form a GSA.
- There are 356 total GSAs in California - many of which are single agency GSAs
- Eligible agencies can join their governance processes in a number of ways including:
 - Joint Powers Agreement
 - Typically defines cost sharing and coordination
 - Typically have separate governance board and shared staff
 - Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
 - No shared governance of staff
 - Less centralized
 - Cooperation or Participation Agreement
 - Similar to MOA or MOU

- Source: California Water Institute Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Governance Strategies Summary Report (2021)

7E

GSA Governance Structures

- Of the GSAs that oversee the critically overdrafted basins, 24 are governed by JPAs, MOU/MOAs, or Coordination Agreements
 - 19 are governed by JPAs
 - 3 are governed by an MOU/ MOA
 - 2 are governed by a coordination agreement

7G

Review Groundwater Extraction Ordinance (continued)

7G

Review Groundwater Extraction Ordinance (continued from October 16, 2024)

Background:

- At the October 16, 2024 meeting the Board discussed reviewing and approving as to form, a draft Ordinance Requiring the Registration, Metering, and Reporting of Groundwater Extractions Within the Santa Monica Subbasin
- The item was continued to the January 2025 meeting pending revision to language in Section 6 of the draft Ordinance and a discussion of the number of groundwater extractors and groundwater extraction wells in the Subbasin
 - Revised language is included in the Board packet
 - Number of current groundwater extraction wells are shown in the following map

7G

Review Groundwater Extraction Ordinance (continued from October 16, 2024)

Background:

- At the October 16, 2024 meeting the Board discussed reviewing and approving as to form, a draft Ordinance Requiring the Registration, Metering, and Reporting of Groundwater Extractions Within the Santa Monica Subbasin
- The item was continued to the January 2025 meeting pending revision to language in Section 6 of the draft Ordinance and a discussion of the number of groundwater extractors and groundwater extraction wells in the Subbasin
 - Revised language is included in the Board packet
 - There are 12 active municipal supply wells and at least 9 private wells associated with 7 golf courses and the Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery

AN ORDINANCE OF THE [INSERT MEMBER AGENCY NAME], ACTING IN ITS CAPACITY AS A MEMBER OF THE SANTA MONICA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY, AND REQUIRING THE REGISTRATION, METERING, AND REPORTING OF GROUNDWATER EXTRACTIONS WITHIN THE SANTA MONICA SUBBASIN

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Monica, the Los Angeles Board of Water and Power Commissioners, the City of Beverly Hills, the City of Culver City, and the County of Los Angeles (each a “Party” and, collectively, the “Parties”) formed the Santa Monica Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“GSA”) through a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”), effective May 2017 to manage the Santa Monica Groundwater Basin (“Basin”).

WHEREAS, the California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) recognized the GSA in September 2017. The GSA is governed by the terms of the MOU and bylaws adopted by the GSA.

WHEREAS, the GSA is represented by a five-member board (the “Board”). Each board member is appointed in accordance with Section 4.1 of the MOU. The GSA may only act with unanimous consent of its Board.

WHEREAS, the Board has both decision-making and advisory responsibilities pertaining to groundwater management in Basin, which DWR has designated as a medium priority basin under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) (three statutes enacted by the California legislature in 2014: AB 1739, SB 1168, SB 1319).

(Attorneys to insert any necessary additional regulatory preamble re GSA authority etc.)

SECTION 1 SHORT TITLE

This Ordinance shall be known as the “Groundwater Extraction Metering Ordinance” of the [INSERT MEMBER AGENCY NAME], acting in its capacity as a member of the GSA.

SECTION 2 PURPOSE

The GSA is charged with the legal responsibility of managing groundwater within the non-adjudicated portion of the Basin. Each GSA member is responsible for enforcing GSA regulations in its respective jurisdiction within the Basin. Information concerning the extraction, distribution, and use of groundwater is necessary for the GSA’s fulfillment of its legislative function of managing groundwater resources under SGMA.

SECTION 3 DEFINITIONS

“De minimis” means a person who extracts, for domestic purposes, two (2) acre-feet ~~of or~~ less per year, as de minimis is defined in SGMA.

“GSA” means the Santa Monica Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

“Extraction Facility” or “Extraction Facilities” means any device or method for the extraction of groundwater, including a well, from within the Basin.

“Flow meter”, “Metering Equipment”, or “Meter” means a manufactured measuring device which is attached to an Extraction Facility for the purpose of accurately measuring and recording the quantity of groundwater extracted by an Extraction Facility.

“Operator” means an authorized representative of an Owner.

“Owner” means any Person, entity, or Operator that has a legal right to extract groundwater.

“Person” means any individual, group of individuals, entity, partnership, firm, private corporation, state or local governmental agency, or federal agency.

“SGMA” means the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

SECTION 4 EXTRACTION FACILITY REGISTRATION ~~AND VERIFICATION PROCEDURES~~

- A) All existing Extraction Facilities shall be registered by the Owner or Operator with the GSA no later than ~~January 31, 2025~~ [Date to be Inserted].
- B) Extraction Facilities ~~shall follow the verification procedures outlined in the New and/or Replacement Production Well Installation Verification Procedures Within the Santa Monica Subbasin adopted by the GSA on April 19, 2023, and~~ shall be registered by the owner or operator with the GSA within sixty (60) days of the completion of such Extraction Facility. The Owner or Operator of an Extraction Facility to be registered shall provide information about the Extraction Facility to the GSA in electronic format that includes, at a minimum, the following:
- I. Name and address of the Operator(s).
 - II. Name and address of the Owner(s) of the land upon which the Extraction Facility is located.
 - III. Location, GPS coordinates, address, parcel number, and State of California well number (if available) of the Extraction Facility.
 - IV. Well completion report, filed with the California Department of Water Resources, pursuant to California Water Code section 13751, or, if not available, construction information about the Extraction Facility, including total depth of well casing, diameter of well casing, and location or depth of perforations.
 - V. Information on the size of the Extraction Facility, including pump size (i.e. horsepower) and pump test information or estimated pumping capacity.
 - VI. Specifications on the type of Flow meter installed on the Extraction Facility (see Section 5).
 - VII. Primary use(s) of groundwater extracted by the Extraction Facility (e.g., agricultural, commercial, domestic, industrial, irrigation, municipal, etc.)

SECTION 5 EXTRACTION FACILITY METERING

Pursuant to authority granted under California Water Code section 10725.8, the GSA shall require all new and existing Extraction Facilities, excluding de minimis users, to be measured by Flow meters, including every separate

well on the subject property. The costs associated with the purchase, installation, operation, and maintenance of Flow meters shall be borne by the Owner or Operator of each Extraction Facility. The following criteria and information for all Extraction Facilities equipped with a Flow meter used to report groundwater extraction shall be provided to the GSA in electronic format (“Extraction Statement”):

- I. Manufacturer and model of Flow meter.
- II. Date Flow meter installed.
- III. Diameter of discharge pipe and size of Flow meter.
- IV. Identification and contact information of who installed Flow meter and calibrated Flow meter per manufacturer specifications.
- V. Color photographs in sufficient quantity to confirm Flow meter identification, installation location, GPS coordinates, and that each Flow meter was installed correctly.

Additionally, the Owner or Operator of the Extraction Facility shall allow GSA staff representative access to physically inspect the Flow meter, upon written request by the GSA staff representative no later than 48 hours prior to such inspection.

SECTION 6 GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION REPORTING

- A) Unless otherwise specified by the GSA Board of Directors, the Owner or Operator of the Extraction Facility shall report daily metered extractions ~~shall volumes be reported~~ electronically to the GSA for the period from October 1 through March 31 and for the period from April 1 through September 30 each ~~water~~ year. The October 1 through March 31 extractions shall be reported to the GSA by April 30 and the extractions from April 1 through September 30 shall be reported to the GSA by October 31.
- B) The form of the Extraction Statement shall be approved by the GSA. For good cause, the GSA may disregard the Extraction Statement and cause an investigation of the actual amount extracted by any Operator ~~in any water year~~. In the event of a discrepancy between the Extraction Statement filed by the Operator and the findings of the GSA, the findings of the GSA shall control.

~~B)~~

SECTION 7 ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

The [INSERT NAME OF MEMBER AGENCY], acting through its designated GSA representative, may take any actions authorized by law to enforce the terms and provisions of this Ordinance within the [MEMBER AGENCY'S JURISDICTION]. Any Owner, Operator, or other person who violates the terms and provisions of this Ordinance shall be subject to the criminal and civil sanctions set forth in SGMA (including without limitation California Water Code Ssection 10732).

SECTION 8 TERMINATION DATE

This Ordinance will remain in full effect unless modified or until repealed by action of the [LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE MEMBER AGENCY].

SECTION 9 ORDINANCE EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance was adopted on _____, 2024⁵, and shall be effective thirty (30) days after passage.

DRAFT

8A

Election of GSA Chair and Vice Chair

8B

Request for Board
Support: Coordination
with USGS on new
monitoring well

8B

Request for Board Support: Coordination with the USGS on a New Monitoring Well

Background:

- At the October 16, 2024 meeting the Board provided direction for the GSA consultant to work with the USGS to determine optimal locations for monitoring wells
- Director Wang, Dr. Gold (secretary of the GSA), and Dr. Weinberger (Dudek) met with USGS staff to discuss recommended locations for additional monitoring wells to fill data gaps identified in the GSP related to seawater intrusion
 - The USGS has identified three areas within the Subbasin that would benefit from additional monitoring wells, and provide an improved monitoring network for seawater intrusion
- To prioritize and, eventually, construct the monitoring wells, specific well sites must be identified and the logistics of land acquisition, well construction, and well maintenance at those sites must be understood
- Recommend providing Board support for additional coordination with the USGS to identify and prioritize specific potential monitoring well sites that will provide an improved understanding of groundwater conditions in the Santa Monica Subbasin.