

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

February 25, 2022

Los Cerritos Channel Watershed Management Group¹

Via Email

STATUS OF COMPLIANCE DEMONSTRATION SUBMITTED BY JUNE 30, 2021 PER THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2020-0038; NOTICE OF LOSS OF DEEMED COMPLIANCE STATUS

Dear Los Cerritos Channel Watershed Management Group:

State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order WQ 2020-0038 (2020 SB Order) directed Permittees to submit documentation by June 30, 2021, demonstrating that all work associated with current and prior milestones had been completed to retain deemed compliance with the receiving water limitations, water quality-based effluent limitations, and other TMDL-specific limitations addressed by the Watershed Management Program (WMP) or Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP).² The following water body-pollutant combinations are those that are eligible for deemed compliance in the Los Cerritos Channel WMP:

- Copper, zinc, and Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate

On May 26, 2021, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) issued a letter via email to all Permittees participating in WMPs and EWMPs with direction on how to submit the aforementioned information.³

The Los Angeles Water Board reviewed the Los Cerritos Channel Group's (LCC Group) document(s) submitted on June 29, 2021,⁴ to assess the LCC Group's demonstration of

¹ (Permittees of the Los Cerritos Channel Watershed Management Group include the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and the cities of Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Lakewood, Long Beach, Paramount, and Signal Hill.)

² (2020 SB Order, at p. 167 available at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2020/wqo2020_0038.pdf [as of August 31, 2021].)

³ (Letter from Executive Officer Renee Purdy, Los Angeles Water Board, to Los Angeles County MS4 Permittees Participating in WMPs and EWMPs (May 26, 2021), at p. 2.)

⁴ (Revised Draft Los Cerritos Channel Watershed Management Program [June 2021 Revised Draft LCC WMP] and corresponding document(s) [demonstration of compliance letter], June 2021.)

completion of all work associated with current and prior milestones according to the requirements set forth by the 2020 SB Order and to determine the LCC Group’s deemed compliance status.

The Los Angeles Water Board’s conditional approval of the LCC WMP, dated April 28, 2015, outlined the actions and milestones that the LCC Group needed to complete to maintain deemed compliance status. The tasks listed in Table 1 have been identified as past due obligations and milestones occurring after WMP approval that should have been completed prior to June 30, 2021.

Table 1: LCC Group Required Actions⁵

Required Actions	Implementation Update
Achieve dry weather metals waste load allocations (WLAs) in 30% of the drainage area served by the storm drain system through implementation of nonstructural controls by September 30, 2017. (September 2017 LLC WMP, ⁶ Section 5.1.1., p 5-1; Table 6-2.)	This milestone was met as shown in monitoring results excerpted from the 2016-2017 Annual Report included in the LCC Group’s June 2021 demonstration of compliance letter.
Achieve wet weather WLAs in 10% of the drainage area served by the storm drain system or achieve equivalent reduction in total loads through implementation of non-structural controls by September 30, 2017. (September 2017 LLC WMP, section 5.1.1., p 5-1; Table 6-2.)	This milestone was met as shown in monitoring results excerpted from the 2016-2017 Annual Report included in the LCC Group’s June 2021 demonstration of compliance letter.
Implementation of the following Phase 1 actions identified in Table 6-3, p. 6-4 of the September 2017 LCC WMP, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 23, 2017 – Completion of Phase I of Implementation Plan and 	The LCC Group completed this task per Table 6-4 of the June 2021 Revised Draft LCC WMP.

⁵ (The LCC Group is also subject to volume capture/pollutant reduction milestones as included in the WMP [WMP, Attachment B: Detailed Jurisdictional Compliance Tables; 2020 SB Order, at p. 138]. Insufficient information was submitted by the LCC Group regarding currently implemented BMP capacity for evaluation. However, sufficient information was provided regarding the other required actions to determine the LCC Group’s deemed compliance status.)

⁶ (The original approved LCC WMP, dated June 8, 2015, was revised on September 21, 2017, as part of the Adaptive Management Process. The actions and milestones outlined in the April 28, 2015, conditional approval still apply.)

<p>Sediment Management Plan for Greater Harbor Toxics TMDL</p>	
<p>Implementation of the following ongoing measures for Phase 1, identified in Table 6-4 of the September 2017 LCC WMP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum Control Measures • True Source Control and Operational Source Control • TSS Reduction (Soil Stabilization/Sediment Control) • Runoff Reduction and Stormwater Capture • Trash Reduction and Control • Stormwater Financing 	<p>This milestone was met. These control measures were completed and are ongoing per Table 6-5 on p. 6-8 of the June 2021 Revised Draft LCC WMP.</p>
<p>Implementation of the following Phase 1 Interim Milestones identified in Table 6-5 of the September 2017 LCC WMP.</p> <p>TSS Reduction (Soil Stabilization/Sediment Control):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of model TSS reduction ordinances by City of Signal Hill. (November 30, 2017) <p>Runoff Reduction and Stormwater Capture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of prototype design of biofiltration and infiltration chamber for streets with wider parkways by City of Lakewood. (September 30, 2015) • Development of prototype design of biofiltration and infiltration changes for streets with narrow parkways by City of Paramount. (December 31, 2015) • Development of concept plan for stormwater project at Long Beach Airport by Cities of Long Beach and Signal Hill. (December 31, 2015) • Development of a process for allocating costs to operate and 	<p>These milestones were met per Table 6-6 on p. 6-10 of the June 2021 Revised Draft LCC WMP.</p>

<p>maintain regional stormwater capture projects. (December 31, 2015)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of concept plan for stormwater capture device at Mayfair Park by the City of Lakewood. (June 30, 2016) <p>Trash Reduction and Control:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial inventory by cities in watershed of catch basins in high priority land use areas. (June 30, 2016) <p>Treatment Controls:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of two tree box filters by the City of Downey. (June 30, 2017) • Installation of two tree box filters by the City of Signal Hill. (June 30, 2017) 	
<p>Implementation of the following ongoing Phase 2 measures identified in Table 6-6 of the September 2017 LCC WMP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum Control Measures • True Source Control and Operational Source Control • TSS Reduction (Soil Stabilization/Sediment Control) • Runoff Reduction and Stormwater Capture • Trash Reduction and Control • Stormwater Financing 	<p>These ongoing measures were completed per Table 6-8 on p. 6-14 of the June 2021 Revised Draft LCC WMP.</p>
<p>Implementation of the following Phase 2 Interim Milestones identified in Table 6-7 of the September 2017 LCC WMP.</p> <p>Runoff Reduction and Stormwater Capture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of stormwater project at the Long Beach Airport by Cities of Long Beach and Signal Hill. (March 30, 2018) 	<p>Runoff reduction and stormwater capture actions were only partially completed as outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Long Beach Airport project was completed December 2019 per the LCC Group's June 2021 demonstration of compliance letter. • The Bolivar Park project was completed per p. 6-14 of the June 2021 Revised Draft LCC WMP.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of stormwater capture project at Bolivar Park by the City of Lakewood. (March 30, 2018) • Development of concept plan for stormwater capture at Skylinks Golf Course (Wardlow Channel) by City of Long Beach. (September 30, 2019) • Development of plan for stormwater capture device at Caruthers Park by the City of Bellflower. (December 31, 2018) • Development of concept plan for stormwater capture at Heartwell Park (Palo Verde Channel) by the City of Long Beach. (June 30, 2019) • Implementation of stormwater capture project at Mayfair Park by the City of Lakewood. (September 30, 2019) • Completion of stormwater capture project at Caruthers Park by the City of Bellflower. (March 31, 2020) • Development of complete concept plan for stormwater capture at Progress Park by the City of Paramount. (June 30, 2020) • Completion of stormwater capture project at Skylinks Golf Course (Wardlow Channel) by the City of Long Beach. (September 30, 2020) • Development of concept plan for stormwater capture at Heartwell Park (Clark Channel) by the City of Long Beach. (September 30, 2020) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Skylinks Golf Course concept plan was completed per p. 6-14 of the June 2021 Revised Draft LCC WMP. • A stormwater capture device plan at Caruthers Park was completed per p. 6-14 of the June 2021 Revised Draft LCC WMP. • The Heartwell Park (Palo Verde Channel) concept plan was completed December 31, 2020, per p. 6-14 of the June 2021 Revised Draft LCC WMP. • Construction at Mayfair Park was completed in June 2021 per the June 2021 demonstration of compliance letter. • The Caruthers Park project was completed in June 2021 per the June 2021 demonstration of compliance letter. • This milestone was not met. The concept plan for Progress Park is projected to be completed by June 30, 2023, per p. 6-18 of the June 2021 Revised Draft LCC WMP. • This milestone was not met. Completion of the Skylinks Golf Course project was delayed to 2024 per pp. 3-15, 3-16 and p. 6-14 of the June 2021 Revised Draft LCC WMP. • A concept plan for Heartwell Park (Clark Channel) was completed December 31, 2020, per p. 6-14 of the June 2021 Revised Draft LCC WMP.
<p>Table 6-7, WMP Implementation Schedule - Measures with Interim Milestones, Phase 2 (2018 - 2020), p. 6-13 of the September 2017 LCC WMP.</p> <p>Trash Reduction and Control:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of full capture systems by cities in 10% of catch basins serving high priority land use areas within the watershed. (November 30, 2019) 	<p>Measures pertaining to Trash Reduction and Control were completed per Table 6-8 on p. 6-14 of the June 2021 Revised Draft LCC WMP.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Installation of full capture systems by cities in 20% of catch basins serving high priority land use areas within the watershed portions of each city, subject to the availability of funding. (November 30, 2020)	
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Based on the Los Angeles Water Board's review of the LCC Group's document(s) submitted, all work associated with prior and current milestones dated on or before June 30, 2021, was not completed as listed in Table 1, above.

Accordingly, this letter serves to inform the LCC Group that it has lost deemed compliance status for the water body-pollutant combinations intended to be addressed via the LCC Group's WMP. The LCC Group submitted a Revised Draft WMP on June 29, 2021. Deemed compliance status may be regained upon approval of a revised WMP.

If the LCC Group disagrees with the Los Angeles Water Board's findings, the LCC Group must provide supplemental information demonstrating compliance with all missed milestones as well any milestones for which the Los Angeles Water Board lacked sufficient information to determine compliance **within 30 days**.

Submit the documents via the LA Water Board's FTP Site:

- FTP site link: <https://ftp.waterboards.ca.gov>
Username: RB4MS4-Upload
Password: RB4-bmBb3Z

Alternatively, please contact Ms. Susana Vargas via email at Susana.Vargas@waterboards.ca.gov for alternative accommodations for submittals.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Susana Vargas of the Municipal Stormwater Permitting Unit by email. Alternatively, you may also contact Mr. Ivar Ridgeway, Municipal Stormwater Permitting Unit Supervisor by email at Ivar.Ridgeway@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Renee Purdy
Executive Officer