

AGENDA
SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025, 12:00 p.m.

Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex
Hargitt Room
13000 Clarkdale Avenue
Norwalk, CA 90650

- 1. ROLL CALL**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 3. CONSENT CALENDAR**
 - a. SEWC ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY MINUTES OF JULY 17, 2025 REGULAR MEETING**

Recommendation: Approve minutes as submitted.
- 4. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SUPPORT PROPOSAL**

Glen Kau, AE Chair, City of Norwalk

Recommendation: Review the requested Amendment Proposal from Koa Consulting, Inc. and take it to the Board for approval.
- 5. DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERSHIP OF SEWC**

Glen Kau, AE Chair, City of Norwalk

Recommendation: Discuss the outreach letter, updated map, list of cities, and overall invitation packet for potential new members.
- 6. DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW**

Glen Kau, AE Chair, City of Norwalk

Recommendation: Review and discuss recommended updates to 2017 SEWC Strategic Plan for Board consideration and approval.
- 7. OCTOBER 2, 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA**

Glen Kau, AE Chair, City of Norwalk

Recommendation: Discuss the SEWC Board of Directors Agenda for October 2, 2025.



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8. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

9. ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY MEMBER COMMENTS

On September 15, 2025, the foregoing agenda was posted in accordance with the applicable legal requirements. Regular and Adjourned Regular meeting agendas may be amended up to 72 hours and Special meeting agendas may be amended up to 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

Disability-related services are available to enable persons with a disability to participate in this meeting, consistent with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Please contact the City of Norwalk Public Services Department at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting at (562) 929-5511.

The next meeting of the Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity will be on Thursday, November 20, 2025, 12:00 p.m., at Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, Hargitt Room, 13000 Clarkdale Avenue, Norwalk, CA 90650.



**Southeast
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**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY**

**THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025
12:00 NOON**

The Regular Meeting of the Southeast Water Coalition Joint Powers Authority Administrative Entity was held on Thursday, July 17, 2025 at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, Hargitt Room, 13000 Clarkdale Avenue, Norwalk, CA 90650. The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. by Norwalk Staff member, Jacque Koontz. At the time the meeting was called to order, a quorum of members was present.

Ms. Madeline Gallagher took attendance, and the following Administrative Entity members were present:

ITEM 1 - ROLL CALL

Andrew Caraveo	City of Commerce
Dan Mueller	City of Downey
Derek Nguyen	City of Lakewood
Michelle Tse	City of Paramount
Sarina Morales-Choate	City of Santa Fe Springs
Chris Castillo	City of South Gate
Ray Cordero	City of Whittier

STAFF AND GUESTS ON SIGN-IN SHEET:

Madeline Gallagher	SEWC Staff
Nicholas Ghirelli	RWG
Jacque Koontz	City of Norwalk (Staff)
Michael Jea	City of Norwalk (Staff)

ITEM 2 – PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ITEM 3 - CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion to approve the Consent Calendar was made by Mr. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Cordero. The motion passed by the following voice vote:

AYES: Caraveo, Mueller, Nguyen, Tse, Castillo, Cordero.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: Morales-Choate.

ITEM 4 - DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING GENERAL COUNSEL PROPOSED FEE AMENDMENT

Ms. Koontz presented the proposed fee amendment by Richards Watson & Gershon (RWG) and noted that rates had not been raised since 2006. After general discussion, there were no additional comments.

Mr. Cordero moved to approve the following:

- a. Review the requested billing rate fee proposal from Richards Watson & Gershon and bring it to the Board for approval.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Mueller and was approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Caraveo, Mueller, Nguyen, Tse, Castillo, Cordero, Morales-Choate.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ITEM 5 – DISCUSSION REGARDING PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SUPPORT PROPOSAL

Ms. Koontz noted that Koa Consulting, Inc. has provided services for 2 years and the contract expires in November. She reached out to legal counsel and confirmed there is no formal SEWC policy for procurement. Ms. Koontz noted that according to the JPA Agreement, in the absence of policies, SEWC is governed by exercise of powers in the same manner as the City of Downey. Downey's procurement policy dictates that any agreement over \$75,000 needs a formal bid process.

After general discussion, AE members and legal counsel determined that with no renewal options in the original contract, an extension could be considered as an amendment with an updated cost and term.

AE members requested that Koa Consulting Inc. provide updated pricing in a proposal to extend the contract through an amendment. Upon consensus, AE members noted that if the cost increase is no more than 10%, they would take action at the next AE Meeting to recommend Board approval. However, if it was more than 10%, then the AE members would like to discuss it further before going to the Board. The AE also requested that the updated term be 2 years 7 months to align with the fiscal year budget and also include an option to extend the contract for two additional years.

ITEM 6 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERSHIP OF SEWC

Ms. Koontz provided context regarding the Board's discussion of potential interest in SEWC membership. She noted that the Board asked for a member benefit sheet and map to show cities that are members of SEWC and non-member cities that are surrounding SEWC. She presented the draft map of SEWC cities and surrounding cities and opened the discussion of what should be included in the member benefits one-pager.

When reviewing the map, Mr. Castillo helped provide context on the City of Cudahy's water system. Mr. Mueller then asked about the JPA and what cities are allowed to be included, and Mr. Ghirelli noted that the JPA was started to manage groundwater contamination in the Central Basin, and that any city or agency in Los Angeles area is permitted to be a member. Mr. Cordero then suggested that the map should be layered over the Central Basin map. Mr. Mueller noted that the purpose of SEWC is related to protection from contamination, though it has evolved. He noted that Central Basin should really be the jurisdictional limits of SEWC membership.

Some benefits that were discussed by AE members as potential benefits to include in the one-pager were: the ability to use the collective voice of 11 cities serving millions of people to amplify concerns to any regional issue and updates on new legislation. Ms. Gallagher noted that she will be collecting any additional member benefits ideas via email.

After discussing both the map and member benefits one-pager, Mr. Nguyen noted that there is a chance that only the City of Lynwood is interested in joining, as they showed interest in joining previously. He asked AE members if this is something that the AE needs to be proactive about or if the map and one-pager is simply something that is kept on-hand in case of interest. It was noted that there are a lot of different agencies, so the future of SEWC shouldn't create too much overlap. The general consensus was to ask the Board during the August meeting

if they envision this being a proactive effort to onboard more cities or if these resources are to be kept on-hand or on the Lead Agency's website for future inquiries.

ITEM 7 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING POTENTIAL ACWA MEMBERSHIP

Ms. Koontz noted that the AE asked about ACWA membership, so she reached out to ask about pricing and member benefits. She noted that member benefits include discounts for events, updates on water management, alerts for breaking water news, guides for regulatory requirements and more. Ms. Koontz brought four separate handouts to share with AE group and noted that the type of membership that SEWC qualifies for is affiliate membership.

She noted that ACWA provided a cost estimate for membership, which is based off a public agency's operational cost. Based on SEWC's costs, the dues would be \$840. They do have a step up to membership program, where it is 50% off the first year and 25% off the second year. She also confirmed that ACWA won't invoice for a full year until the 3rd year.

Ms. Koontz asked for feedback and Ms. Tse asked about accessibility and which cities would have access to ACWA. Ms. Koontz noted that she would need to confirm how many emails would have direct access.

Mr. Cordero noted that joining would be good experience and exposure and the other AE members were in favor of joining. AE members noted that after joining, Staff could print conferences and schedules for the year and bring to AE to see who wants to commit to each conference or event. It was noted that there may be extra costs for such events. Because the cost of membership was lower than the required amount to bring this item to the Board for approval, everyone agreed to move forward and asked Ms. Koontz to please initiate the membership process.

ITEM 8 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW

Ms. Koontz noted that the Strategic Plan was brought up at both the latest Board and AE meetings and that the update to the Strategic Plan would also tie into the SEWC new membership. She presented the Strategic Plan, last edited in 2017 and asked for direction or edits.

AE members noted that in the past, they had a consultant assist with putting together the Strategic Plan. Mr. Nguyen noted some inconsistencies in the JPA vs. the Strategic Plan and highlighted potential room for improvement.

The general consensus from AE members was to present the 2017 version of SEWC's Strategic Plan to the Board at the August Board Meeting and allow them

to provide direction. Ultimately, AE members wanted to understand the level of interest the Board has in updating the Strategic Plan through a virtual workshop.

ITEM 9 – AUGUST 7, 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA

Ms. Koontz opened up a discussion to confirm what items would be on the Board Agenda, and the following items were suggested:

1. General Counsel Fee Amendment
2. Membership Formal Process (Map & Fact Sheet & Process)
3. Strategic Plan
4. PFAS Update (Virtual Teams Update with Cossich Law to provide an update on the PFAS lawsuits)
5. Legislative Update – Nick to give update

Mr. Mueller also noted that Cossich Law could speak at a future AE meeting if there is any interest.

ITEM 10 – WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None.

ITEM 11 - ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY MEMBER COMMENTS

Ray Cordero asked if anybody knows Midland Park Water Trust, but AE members were not familiar.

Ms. Koontz noted that Norwalk has not received enough responses for scheduling the MET Pure Water tour, so the SEWC chair requested to attempt to coordinate a group for Tuesday, August 12th. She noted that if members know anyone who would be available and interested, to please reach out to her or fill out the survey being sent via email. She noted that the tour would be 90 minutes.

Ms. Gallagher noted that if there are any updates to SEWC AE or Board members that are not reflected in the sign-in sheet or name plates, please let her know. She also noted that she sent an email from Grace Kast regarding GWMA Regional Grants - Groundwater Contamination Treatment to all AE members. She reminded them to take a look and reach out to Grace accordingly.

ITEM 12 - ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

The next regular Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity Meeting will be held on September 18, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. at the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, Hargitt Room, 13000 Clarkdale Avenue, Norwalk, CA 90650.

Chair

Date



**SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
AGENDA REPORT**

Date: September 18, 2025
To: Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity
From: Glen W.C. Kau, AE Chair, City of Norwalk

Subject: DISCUSSION REGARDING PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SUPPORT PROPOSAL

Discussion:

Koa Consulting, Inc. ("KCI") has been providing program management support services to SEWC since November 2023. The scope of work includes services and support for the Administrative Entity and Policy Board meetings. Services also include records management and organization, and official filings. The current contract with a fixed monthly fee of \$4,540 (\$54,480 annual fee) expires in November 2025.

During the July meeting, AE members requested that KCI provide updated pricing in a proposal to extend the contract through an amendment. The term discussed was two years and seven months, so that the term aligns with the fiscal year. AE members also requested that the amendment includes an option to extend the contract for two years.

Recommendation: Review the requested Amendment Proposal from Koa Consulting, Inc. and take it to the Board for approval.

Attachments:

1. 2025 – 2028 Koa Consulting Proposed Amendment.



**Southeast
Water Coalition**

A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

September 18, 2025

Glen W.C. Kau, P.E.
Administrative Entity Chair
The Southeast Water Coalition (SEWC)
City of Norwalk (SEWC Lead Agency)
12700 Norwalk Blvd.,
Norwalk, CA 90650

Subject: Southeast Water Coalition (SEWC) Program Management Services

Dear Mr. Kau:

After two years of providing the Southeast Water Coalition (SEWC) program management services, Koa Consulting, Inc. would be proud to continue our services. We have thoroughly enjoyed working alongside the SEWC members for the past two years and are excited about the opportunity to continue providing these services with our devoted team and comprehensive approach.

As you know, our team is comprised of qualified staff to ensure that SEWC is provided with the right support and guidance for meetings, functional organization and document management, filings, and more. Having provided the Gateway Water Management Authority and Rio Hondo/San Gabriel River Watershed Management JPA with similar program management services for years, we are confident that we remain the right fit for SEWC.

Our attached 2025-2028 Program Management Services Proposal accurately reflects our time spent assisting SEWC with all program management services. We are proposing an amendment of our contract with an extension term of two years and seven months and an option to extend for an additional two years.

The quality and prioritization of work for SEWC will continue to be held to our highest standards and we hope to continue working with SEWC to provide administrative support for the Administrative Entity (AE) and Policy Board.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (949) 887-0731 or by email at kekoa@koaconsulting.net.

Respectfully submitted,

Kekoa Anderson, PE
CEO
Koa Consulting, Inc.
S Corporation



**Southeast
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A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

Scope of Services

The following suggested tasks have been developed based upon a review of the Southeast Water Coalition (SEWC)'s Scope of Work. Our diverse and skilled team will work with the SEWC to provide administrative support for the Administrative Entity and Policy Board's bi-monthly meetings, provide general administrative support for your meetings and throughout the month, assist with document management and filings and ultimately serve as the agency head, code officer, and filing officer.

TASK 1 AE AND POLICY BOARD BI-MONTHLY MEETINGS SUPPORT

- Provide administrative support for the Southeast Water Coalition's Administrative Entity (AE) and Policy Board's bi-monthly meetings.
- Prepare the meetings' agenda, staff reports (as requested) and the previous meetings' minutes.
- Researching and provide supporting documents for each meetings' agenda items.
- Attend AE bi-monthly meetings and Policy Board bi-monthly meetings.
- Provide a meeting sign-in list.
- Print and setup nameplates prior to the meeting start.
- Supply additional copies of the agenda packet and copies of supporting documents, as required.
- Ensure that the approved minutes of the previous meeting are signed by the AE Chair or Policy Board Chair and provide them to the Lead Agency representative for retention.
- Take minutes at each meeting.
- Coordinate with the Lead Agency to ensure necessary audio/visual or meeting equipment is provided at the meeting venue.
- Coordinate proper meeting room setup and assist with the coordination of meeting catering, as requested.
- Coordinate meeting presentations with other agencies, as requested.
- In conjunction with the Administrative Entity Chair, develop items for the AE and Board agendas, providing item research as necessary.
- Write the staff report for each item.

For Task 1 – A fixed amount of \$2.8k per month is proposed for general administration and monthly meetings support, which includes direct costs such as mileage and printing costs.

TASK 2 – ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

- Preparation and submittal of State or Federal forms.
- Preparation and submittal of position letters to regulatory agencies, elected officials, water providers, and other interested parties.
- Manage all SEWC related documents.
- Neatly organize meeting documents, filings, and other official SEWC documents in Dropbox.

For Task 2 – A fixed amount of \$1.4k per month is proposed for all administrative support and document management.

TASK 3 – FILINGS

- Act as the filing officer for Assuming Office and Leaving Office forms and annual Form 700 filings with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors' office.
- Serve as the designated agency head, code officer, and filing office.

For Task 3 – A fixed amount of \$750 per month is proposed to manage filings, which includes mailing costs like printing and stamps.



**Southeast
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Fee Proposal

Price Summary Table Koa CONSULTING 419 Main Street, Suite 320 Huntington Beach, CA 92648		Classification and Rates				Pricing Breakdown		Estimated Fee Assumption (per Month)
		\$215.00	\$185.00	\$75.00	<< Bill/Hr			
		Sr. Manager	Manager	Admin	Total Labor Hours	Labor	ODCs	
The Southeast Water Coalition (SEWC)								
No.	Task Description							
1	MONTHLY MEETINGS SUPPORT	1	12	4	17	\$2,735	\$75	\$2,810
2	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT	1	6	1	8	\$1,400		\$1,400
3	FILINGS	1	2	2	5	\$735	\$15	\$750
Totals		3	20	7	30	\$4,870	\$90	\$4,960
Notes, etc.								
Assumptions: The monthly task breakdowns are provided as a basis for how our lump sum estimates were calculated.								
						Total Monthly Fee		\$ 4,960



**SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
AGENDA REPORT**

Date: September 18, 2025
To: Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity
From: Glen W.C. Kau, AE Chair, City of Norwalk

**Subject: DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERSHIP
OF SEWC**

Discussion:

During the April Board Meeting, there was a discussion regarding the process and interest of adding new member cities/agencies to SEWC. Since then, Staff and AE members have helped create a one-page fact sheet detailing the membership application process, a one-page fact sheet detailing the membership benefits of SEWC, and a map of cities that are current or potential members of SEWC.

At the August Board Meeting, Board members requested AE members update the map to include an overlay of the Central Basin Municipal Water District service area, provide a list of potential cities for outreach, and to draft an outreach letter. Board members requested that this outreach letter include benefits of being a member of SEWC and the cost of membership. Additionally, it was noted that the outreach letter should be sent out with a copy of the updated Strategic Plan and member benefits and application process one-page fact sheets.

The purpose of this agenda item is to discuss a draft outreach letter, list of cities, and updated map.

Recommendation: Discuss the outreach letter, updated map, list of cities, and overall invitation packet for potential new members.

SEWC MAP

DRAFT

Legend

 Central Basin Boundary

Los Angeles County

 No Information

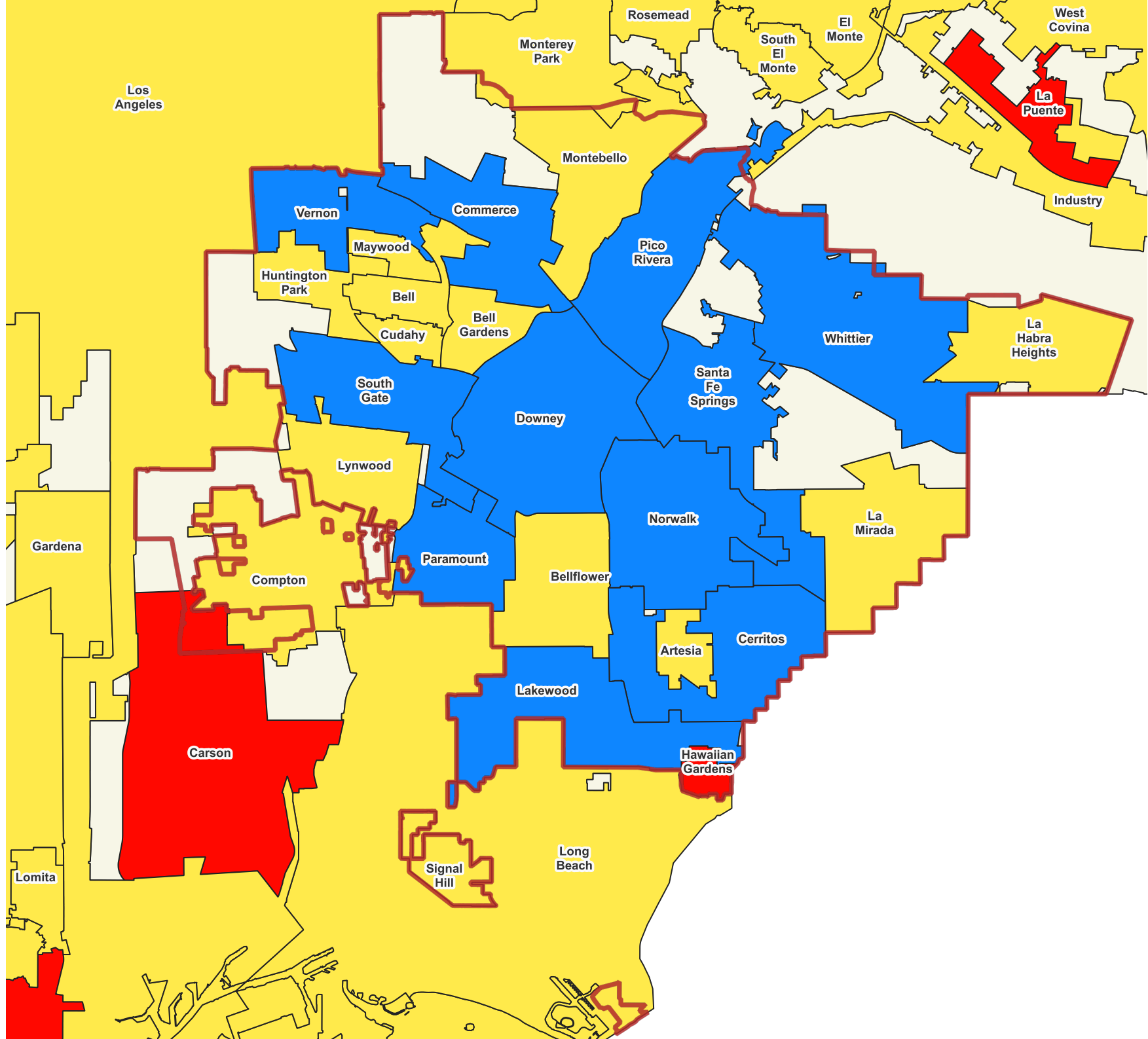
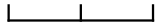
 Potential Party

 Unincorporated Area

 Member Cities



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**SOUTHEAST WATER COALITION
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
AGENDA REPORT**

Date: September 18, 2025
To: Southeast Water Coalition Administrative Entity
From: Glen W.C. Kau, AE Chair, City of Norwalk

Subject: DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW

Discussion:

During the July AE Meeting, AE members decided to bring the 2017 version of the Strategic Plan to the Board for review and request any proposed edits. Since the Strategic Plan is part of the new membership packet, reviewing the Strategic Plan was timely.

At the August Board meeting, Board members stated that the names of Board and AE members need to be updated, but that currently, there were no recommended major changes at that time. Board members requested AE members review the Strategic Plan in depth and bring recommended changes to a future Board meeting for consideration.

The names have been updated in the attached Strategic Plan. The purpose of this item is to open up a discussion regarding additional edits recommended by AE members before bringing the Strategic Plan back to the Board for approval.

Recommendation: Review and discuss recommended updates to 2017 SEWC Strategic Plan for Board consideration and approval.

Attachments:

1. 2025 SEWC Strategic Plan

2025 Southeast Water Coalition Strategic Plan

Message from the Board

Welcome to the Southeast Water Coalition's (SEWC) Strategic Plan. This document is a blueprint for how SEWC will respond to current challenges and make the best of future opportunities for the benefit of our customers. It confirms our vision, mission, goals, strategies, and objectives as a Joint Powers Authority dedicated to providing regional water service, supporting the high quality of life and economy of the region.

SEWC was created in July 1991 and is comprised of eleven member cities. The SEWC "region" represents the combined boundaries of the member cities. These agencies formed a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) to improve and



protect the quantity and quality of their regional water supply. SEWC's water purveyors service a population of approximately 670,000 in a service area of 93+ square miles.

The initial purpose for the formation of the Southeast Water Coalition was to protect the Central Groundwater Basin from contamination migrating from the San Gabriel Valley Groundwater Basin. Over the years, SEWC has worked diligently with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to improve the monitoring of groundwater contaminants, determine cost-effective remediation to protect the Whittier Narrows and Central Groundwater Basin from the South El Monte plume, and lobby the EPA for early implementation of remediation projects.

The SEWC Policy Board consists of one representative (normally a Councilmember) from each member city. The Administrative Entity carries out the policies of the Policy Board and consists of: one representative from each member city; three representatives that are employees of three Public Utility Commission-regulated private water companies providing retail water service within the SEWC area; and one ex-officio, non-voting advisory member nominated by California Department of Water

Resources. The member cities are:

- Commerce
- Cerritos
- Downey

2025 Southeast Water Coalition Strategic Plan

- Lakewood
- Norwalk
- Paramount
- Pico Rivera
- Santa Fe Springs
- South Gate
- Vernon
- Whittier

SEWC's Policy Board is charting a course for continued success in the future through the development and execution of this Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan defines the vision, mission, goals, and future business strategy for SEWC. Our commitments to the communities we serve fall into three areas: Groundwater Protection, Advocacy and Communications, and Funding. These commitments are established as the six goals of the Strategic Plan. Our Board actions will consistently support these commitments and we will track the progress against this plan, revisiting the Strategic Plan regularly to adjust as conditions warrant.

Board Member Frank Aurelio Yokoyama
City of Cerritos

Board Member Kevin Lainez
City of Commerce

Board Member Horacio Ortiz
City of Downey

Board Member Todd Rogers
City of Lakewood

Board Member Ana Valencia
City of Norwalk

Board Member Isabel Aguayo
City of Paramount

2025 Southeast Water Coalition Strategic Plan

Board Member Andrew Lara
City of Pico Rivera

Board Member Joe Angel Zamora
City of Santa Fe Springs

Board Member Maria del Pilar Avalos
City of South Gate

Board Member Melissa Ybarra
City of Vernon

Board Member Octavio Martinez
City of Whittier

Administrative Entity Members

- Jose Arroyo-Gutierrez – Cerritos
- Alvin Papa - Cerritos
- Jaime Morales – Cerritos
- Andrew Caraveo – Commerce
- Dan Mueller – Downey
- Matt Robertson – Downey
- Derek Nguyen – Lakewood
- Anthony Manzano – Lakewood
- Glen Kau – Norwalk
- Adriana Figueroa – Paramount
- Michelle Tse – Paramount
- Michelle Müller - Paramount
- Adrian Rodriguez – Pico Rivera
- Sandra Castro – Pico Rivera
- Frank Sanchez – Santa Fe Springs
- Sarina Morales-Choate – Santa Fe Springs



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- Chris Castillo – South Gate
- Derwin Dy – South Gate
- Art Cervantes – South Gate
- Gladis Deras – South Gate
- Joanna Moreno – Vernon
- Ray Cordero – Whittier
- Kyle Cason – Whittier

Consultant Support

- Koa Consulting, Inc.

Introduction

The Strategic Plan was developed under the guidance of the SEWC Board of Directors and Administrative Entity. This team met over an approximate six-month period including multiple Administrative Entity and Board workshops.

The focus of strategic deliberations was the recognition of key issues SEWC will face in the next five-year planning horizon (and beyond). Workshops identified strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT Analysis) that the Strategic Plan should consider. Major challenges for SEWC include actively tracking and synthesizing information for Policy Board consideration related to protecting the Central Basin from contamination, advocating for water policy that is in the interest of the Central Basin, and seeking funding to support SEWC programs and member projects. The Board adopted the **original** Strategic Plan in April of 2017.

The five-year Strategic Plan will be implemented and tracked through the annual budget process. Strategic Plan activities will be budgeted in later years and subject to Board review and approval. In the future, staff will ensure the proposed budgets reflect the priorities established in the Strategic Plan.

2025 Southeast Water Coalition Strategic Plan

Vision Statement

“SEWC is a valued advocate for safe and reliable water supplies that support the quality of life and economy of the southeast Los Angeles region”



Mission Statement

SEWC's mission is to advocate for water policies that ensure the availability of reliable, quality, and affordable water.

Values

The Policy Board and Administrative Entity have adopted the following values to guide the internal and external interactions of SEWC:

- Integrity - the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles
- Open communication – we will communicate in an unreserved and objective fashion
- Collaboration – we will work jointly to achieve the Coalition's goals
- Public stewardship of resources – we will carefully and prudently manage the resources that are entrusted to us
- Transparency – our Coalition activities will be visible and information/deliberations accessible

2025 Southeast Water Coalition Strategic Plan

Goals / Strategies / Objectives

The Board developed three goals that represent SEWC's key commitments to the community it serves. SEWC is committed to:

- **Goal 1: Groundwater Protection** – SEWC will provide leadership and collaborate to protect and sustain the Central Basin groundwater supply of the SEWC region
- **Goal 2: Advocacy and Communications** – SEWC will track, develop, coordinate, and communicate input into water policy affecting the SEWC region
- **Goal 3: Funding** – SEWC will seek funding for water resource projects and programs benefiting the SEWC region

Goal 1: Groundwater Protection – SEWC will provide leadership and collaborate to protect and sustain the Central Basin groundwater supply of the SEWC region

Strategy 1.1 – Enhance understanding of area hydrogeology:

Objective 1.1.1 Support tracking of groundwater quality/plume information (including modeling)

Objective 1.1.2 Engage Water Replenishment agencies, to periodically update SEWC on existing contamination plume movement



2025 Southeast Water Coalition Strategic Plan

Strategy 1.2 – Identify and support projects that enhance and protect groundwater in the SEWC region to “shovel-ready” status to take advantage of funding opportunities:

Objective 1.2.1 Develop a SEWC region plan including projects, policies, or programs that protect and enhance water quality within the SEWC region

Objective 1.2.2 Identify and collaborate to develop the conceptual project components required to achieve “shovel-ready” status, including preparation of preliminary studies for regional projects (including groundwater storage)

Objective 1.2.3 Analyze opportunities for developing system interties between member agencies to increase water supply resiliency

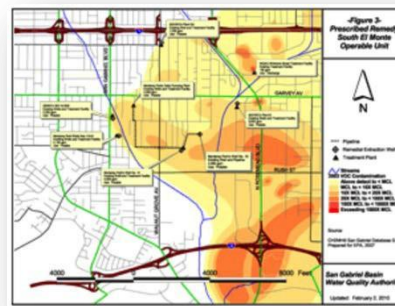
Goal 2: Advocacy and Communications – SEWC will track, develop, coordinate, and communicate input into water policy affecting the SEWC region

Strategy 2.1 – As directed by the Board, monitor and advocate for improvements to State, federal, and regional water policy and regulations:

Objective 2.1.1 Monitor and track State, federal and regional water-related legislation including tracking of Central Basin Water Association legislative reports

Objective 2.1.2 Develop and present water policy positions to the Board for action

Objective 2.1.3 Advocate Board positions



2025 Southeast Water Coalition Strategic Plan

Objective 2.1.4 Support good governance policy changes at regional water agencies

Objective 2.1.5 Actively develop relationships with regulators

Strategy 2.2 – Work in partnership with the Gateway Water Management Authority (GWMA) to implement the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) for the southeast Los Angeles County and lower Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed:

Objective 2.2.1 Establish SEWC project priorities

Objective 2.2.2 Attend meetings of the GWMA

Objective 2.2.3 Advocate for SEWC priorities

Strategy 2.3 – Represent the regions' interests before local, State and federal agencies:

Objective 2.3.1 Work in partnership with USEPA and other agencies to continue to protect Central Basin drinking water wells from detectable contamination

Objective 2.3.2 Work in partnership with USEPA, State and local agencies to continue to prioritize cleanup of the Omega Chemical Site, to ensure compliance with State and federal drinking water standards



Objective 2.3.3 Work in partnership with DTSC, federal, and local agencies to continue to prioritize cleanup of the Whittier Narrows Operable Unit (WNOU), to ensure compliance with State and federal drinking water standards

2025 Southeast Water Coalition Strategic Plan

Objective 2.3.4 Track the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority (SGBWQA) / South El Monte Operable Unit (SEMOU) barrier project and the long term SEMOU remediation project by USEPA/SGBWQA

Objective 2.3.5 Track the Water Quality Protection Program monitoring results

Strategy 2.4 – Support the development of recycled water:

Objective 2.4.1 Track the Groundwater Reliability Improvement Project (GRIP) including monitoring of costs, benefits, and mitigation of impacts on local agencies

Objective 2.4.2 Track and engage the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County /Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Joint Water Pollution Control Facility recycled water indirect potable reuse project, and other potable reuse projects that affect the SEWC region

Objective 2.4.3 Track other regional recycled water projects (e.g. Central Basin MWD projects)

Strategy 2.5 – Communications: SEWC will inform, engage and respond to the community it serves:

Objective 2.5.1 Prepare coordinated message points for members to ensure uniform factual communications

Strategy 2.6 – Track and participate in area water policy groups:

Objective 2.6.1 Monitor Central Basin Municipal Water District activities

Objective 2.6.2 Monitor WRD activities

2025 Southeast Water Coalition Strategic Plan

Objective 2.6.3 Monitor Central Basin Water Association activities

Objective 2.6.4 Participate in activities of the Central Basin Watermaster

Goal 3: Funding and Effective SEWC Administration – SEWC will seek funding for water resource projects and programs benefiting the SEWC region

Strategy 3.1 – Identify funding opportunities for SEWC priority projects:

Objective 3.1.1 Maintain an updated list of funding resources for SEWC region projects and programs

Objective 3.1.2 Where appropriate, identify, advocate and pursue local, State, and federal commitment to fund projects and programs (including groundwater contamination cleanup) in the SEWC region

Objective 3.1.3 Track funding success

Strategy 3.2 – Identify, advocate and pursue improvements to the State and federal funding process for water, wastewater, and storm water projects and facilities:

Objective 3.2.1 Engage in State and federal funding initiatives to ensure the terms are supportive of SEWC project funding objectives

Strategy 3.3 – Administration of SEWC:

Objective 3.3.1 Schedule and support the activities of the Administrative Entity and the Policy Board

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Objective 3.3.2 Develop a staffing strategy/plan that meets the resource needs of SEWC

Objective 3.3.3 Create and present annual budgets to the Policy Board for approval
Objective 3.3.4 Effectively manage consultants to achieve the directives of the Policy Board

Objective 3.3.5 Develop an “on-boarding” process for new SEWC Administrative Entity and Policy Board members (consider mentoring, communication of JPA, responsibilities, “SEWC 101”, etc.)

Objective 3.3.6 Periodically review JPA documents to ensure they are current

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Implementation

The Strategic Plan is intended to be a living document that will be reviewed and updated periodically. It will be used in planning and budgeting the activities of SEWC. Implementation will occur through the SEWC management plans, action/implementation plans, programs, and the allocation of resources through the annual budget process.

We will establish clear priorities for implementation of our Strategic Plan in order to use our limited resources as effectively as possible. We will set these priorities using criteria developed by the Policy Board and staff, and will assess them regularly to ensure they reflect changes in our internal and external environments. We will effectively communicate these priorities so that staff can adjust their work program and our customers and ratepayers will understand the basis for our actions.

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Glossary

The following key terms are used in this strategic plan:

Goal – SEWC’s commitment to the community it serves

Issue – a problem or opportunity facing SEWC

Mission – the primary reason(s) for the existence of the organization

Objective – measurable work activity that, when accomplished, will directly lead to the success of the strategy

Plume – areas of elevated concentrations of groundwater contaminants

Strategy – how an issue is solved to achieve the goal

Strategic Plan – a structured plan to drive SEWC to achieve its goals

SWOT Analysis – description of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to identify areas of focus in the strategic plan

Vision – what effect SEWC aspires to have