PANEL 2: OCT. 15, 9AM-12PM
RAIN OR SHINE
SOAKING UP SUCCESS

A Symposium Series on the Benefits of Green Infrastructure - Detailed Program
Rain or Shine: Soaking Up Success
Symposium Series

**Green infrastructure** has the ability to soak up rain and heat (with vegetation) but **how do we know if it's soaking up success?**

Beginning with the Water Augmentation Study and later Elmer Avenue, Council for Watershed Health (CWH) has built a reputation for leveraging green infrastructure (GI) to slow, spread and sink (or soak up) stormwater where it falls, producing as many benefits as possible, and creating a sustainable landscape ethic in Southern California. CWH has since gathered lessons learned, best practices, and strategies to help inform future project design, implementation, and monitoring strategies.

Today, significant investments in GI, Nature-Based Solutions and Low Impact Development Best Management Practices (LID BMPs) are being made throughout California and in LA County with its Safe, Clean Water Program (Measure W) and Clean Neighborhood Parks and Beaches Program (Measure A). CWH and its partners recognize the need for common strategies and coordinated efforts to measure the success of GI projects from science-based, ecological, equity-driven and watershed perspectives.

We invite you to join us along with agencies, municipalities, academia, and GI practitioners, as we host our *Rain or Shine: Soaking up Success Symposium* and provide a forum to:

- Examine GI from multiple perspectives
- Learn how GI benefits are being quantified
- Share lessons learned to inform future design, implementation, and monitoring
Symposium Series

Panel 1  |  September 23  |  9am-12pm
Green infrastructure - Indices, Metrics & Monitoring

Panel 2  |  October 15  |  9am-12pm
Green infrastructure - Coordination & Collaboration with Communities

Panel 3  |  October 29  |  3pm-5:30pm
Green infrastructure - Integration & Innovation
Community collaboration and participatory decision making are essential for successful green infrastructure project planning and equitable placemaking. Panelists will focus on strategies for including community members in green infrastructure project planning to implement and sustain public health and community benefits.
Symposium Panel 2 Agenda

- **9:00 - 9:20am** Welcome & Panel Introduction
- **9:20 - 10:20am** Panelist Presentations
- **10:20 - 11:00am** Panelist Discussion and Audience Q&A
- **11:00 - 11:15am** Keynote Address: LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
- **11:15 - 11:20am** Move to Poster Session Breakouts
- **11:20 - 12:00pm** Poster Presentations with Q&A
THANK YOU TO OUR SYMPOSIUM PARTNERS & SPONSORS!

- Resources Legacy Fund
- Lim Aqua-nautic
- San Gabriel Valley MWD
- EW Consulting
Welcome

Paul Brown
Vice President
Council for Watershed Health

Eileen Alduenda
Executive Director
Council for Watershed Health
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<th>Topic</th>
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<td>Community Engagement &amp; Placemaking</td>
<td>Bryan Matsumoto, MLA</td>
<td>Program Organizer, Nature for All</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parks &amp; Placemaking</td>
<td>Robin Mark, MLA</td>
<td>Program Manager, Trust for Public Land</td>
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<td>Trees &amp; Community Decision Making</td>
<td>Michele Romolini, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Managing Director, Center for Urban Resilience, Loyola Marymount University</td>
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<td>Urban Forests as Green Infrastructure</td>
<td>Rachel Malarich</td>
<td>City Forest Officer, City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works</td>
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<td>Community Health Considerations</td>
<td>Carlos Moran</td>
<td>Watershed Coordinator, CWH</td>
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<td>Equity &amp; Opportunities</td>
<td>Pauline Louie</td>
<td>Advisor, Urban Waters Federal Partnership</td>
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Bryan Matsumoto is passionate about empowering our local communities through connection with the outdoors and advocacy. He is Program Organizer of the San Gabriel Mountains Transit & Infrastructure Program, Nature for All’s transit-to-trails initiative. He represents N4A’s park-building & green infrastructure interests in disadvantaged communities as an Alternate on the LA County Safe Clean Water Program, Rio Hondo Watershed Area Steering Committee. He previously led our San Gabriel Valley Leadership Development program, and was lead organizer of the All Aboard for Nature! Public Lands Day L.A. event. Bryan got his start in N4A through our Leadership Academy (Cohort 10!) and is an active leader in our Stewards group supporting engagement of our graduates and the public in creative stewardship programming.

Bryan has a Masters of Landscape Architecture from Cal Poly Pomona, a B.A. in Design | Media Arts from UCLA, and worked 10 years previously in public landscape architecture, park design and community outreach across LA County with Withers & Sandgren Landscape Architecture and BlueGreen Consulting. Bryan is a volunteer leader in Great Outdoors Los Angeles, a gay hiking/camping organization, and plays with Bombu Taiko, a Japanese drumming group.
Robin Mark, MLA
Program Manager, Trust for Public Land

Robin Mark is the Los Angeles Program Manager for The Trust for Public Land. Robin oversees a team of landscape architecture professionals and community organizers to deliver quality park projects, green schoolyards, and green alleys throughout LA County. In recent years, Robin’s work has focused on the Los Angeles River, implementing park projects as well as larger planning and policy work around large-scale infrastructure projects and their relationship to displacement. She is one of the founding members of the LA ROSAH (Los Angeles Regional Open Space & Affordable Housing) Collaborative. Robin holds a Master of Landscape Architecture degree from California State Polytechnic University in Pomona and is a LEED Accredited Professional.
Dr. Michele Romolini specializes in social scientific research related to urban ecology, with main areas of expertise in environmental governance and green infrastructure. As CURes’ Managing Director, she works to develop new research collaborations, secure funding for projects, and integrate social and ecological research questions. Dr. Romolini leads three main projects:

- **LA Stew-MAP**, a project to inventory and map the environmental stewardship activities conducted by organizations in Los Angeles.
- **LA Tree Canopy Assessment and Prioritization Project**, a collaboration with University of Vermont and Savatree that uses fine resolution imagery and LiDAR data to produce parcel-level analyses of existing and possible tree canopy.
- **Baldwin Hills Park User Study**, a longitudinal analysis of park user behavior and attitudes.

She works closely with faculty at LMU and other universities, USDA Forest Service scientists, and non-profit leaders. She received her PhD in Natural Resources at the University of Vermont, and a Master’s of Environmental Studies and BA in Biology at the University of Pennsylvania.
With advanced degrees in social work, Carlos Moran’s experience includes designing and implementing high impact strategies that intersect mental health, public health and environmental justice. Carlos has played a role in advancing large scale multi-benefit projects throughout the LA Region. In addition to environmental justice planning, he has also led teams that engaged tens of thousands of Angelenos and especially those from the most environmentally and economically stressed communities to plant thousands of trees, capture stormwater, and become stewards of their environment. Previously, he led a partnership of community-based organizations that empowered children, youth and families to transform an abandoned bread factory in South Los Angeles into a multi-service social service center serving over 3,000 beneficiaries per year. Carlos also serves as adjunct faculty in the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work. He teaches graduate courses on policy, research and program evaluation, and human behavior. He integrates real-world knowledge into the classroom environment through his depth of skills in environmental justice planning, public policy, management, research and evaluation, children & youth, leadership, and mental health.
Rachel Malarich has over 12 years of experience in Southern California urban forestry with a focus on urban forest management, strategic planning, and community engagement. Before her appointment as City Forest Officer, Rachel served as Assistant Director of Environmental Services for Koreatown Youth and Community Center (KYCC), where she oversaw planting of thousands of trees in underserved communities in central Los Angeles. Prior to that, she spent a decade with Tree People, including three years as Director of Forestry. She has presented research on strategies to increase tree canopy in urban areas and improve community engagement. She is a Certified Arborist and Tree Risk Assessor Qualified with the International Society of Arboriculture and serves on the Board of the Street Tree Seminar, the local chapter of the California Urban Forest Council.
Pauline Louie
Senior Analyst, HUD
Former Ambassador, Urban Waters Federal Partnership

Pauline Louie is a Senior Analyst at HUD, leading work in resilience, disaster recovery and community development for over 20 years. She recently served with the U.S. EPA and other federal agencies as the Urban Waters Federal Partnership Ambassador for the revitalization of the Los Angeles River. Previously, Pauline worked in redevelopment – notably of military base closures, and as a Contracts & Grants Manager for the University of CA. She holds 2 undergraduate degrees from UCLA, as well as her M.A. in Urban Planning.

As a lifelong Angeleno, Pauline loves the social and the natural history of Los Angeles. She loves hiking and exploring – especially along the LA River.
Poster Presentations - Room A

CWH Room A Moderator
Carlos Moran, carlos@watershedhealth.org

Presentation Order (~5 minutes per poster)

   Kelsey Jessup, The Nature Conservancy

2. “Trees in Stormwater BMPs”
   Jessica Hall, GHD

3. “The Role of Virtual Engagement in Green Infrastructure”
   Atley Keller, Local Government Commission

   Thom Epps, Craftwater Engineering

CLICK HERE TO VIEW POSTER ABSTRACTS
Virtual Poster Session

Poster Presentations - Room B

CWH Room B Moderator
Clarasophia Gust, cgust@watershedhealth.org

Presentation Order (~5 minutes per poster)

1. “Incorporating SITES to Benefit the Local Community and Watershed”
   Anisha Malik, Michael Baker International

2. “Why Don’t We use Stormwater?”
   Ellen Mackey, MWD of SoCal

3. “City of Los Angeles Transforms an Industrial Site to a Riverside Park”
   John Saldin, City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering

4. “Merced Avenue Greenway”
   Nate Schreiner, TetraTech

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Virtual Poster Session

Poster Presentations - Room C

CWH Room C Moderator
Yareli Sanchez, yareli@watershedhealth.org

Presentation Order (~5 minutes per poster)

1. “Multi-Benefit Stormwater Projects in Los Angeles: Policy Options to Address Systemic Challenges”
   M. Miro & A. Huttinger, RAND Corporation

2. “Reconnecting Lost Open Spaces through Urban Biodiversity”
   Isaac Brown, Stillwater Sciences

3. “OurWaterLA: Engaging Communities to Reinvest in Our Water Future”
   N. Schrodes & L. Rodriguez, OurWaterLA

4. “Turning Nation’s road infrastructure to a network of stormwater treatment system”
   Renan Valenca, UCLA

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Virtual Poster Session

Poster Presentations - Room D

CWH Room D Moderator
Courtney Bonilla, cbonilla@watershedhealth.org

Presentation Order (~5 minutes per poster)

1. “Bolivar Park Stormwater and Urban Runoff Capture Project”
   Chris Jansen, PE, Tetra Tech

2. “Water Resources and Disadvantaged Community Involvement Project”
   Danielle Bram, Center for Geospatial Science & Technology - CSUN

3. “The Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries (ULART) Revitalization Plan”
   Jean Yang, Studio-MLA

4. “Looking Back to Advance Forward”
   A. Bruesehoff & S. Andrews, Rancho Los Cerritos

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Join us for the next events in our series!

3-DAY PANEL SERIES
A Symposium on the Benefits of Green Infrastructure

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Register Today at - watershedhealth.org/2020-soaking-up-success
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