Clean Water, Clean Beaches water quality funding measure



Los Angeles County Flood Control District

The Problem

- Stormwater and runoff rushes down the street, picking up trash and toxic pollutants.
- On a rainy day, over 10 billion gallons of contaminated stormwater flows directly untreated—into rivers, creeks, lakes and our bay and coastal waters.



Problem

- Polluted stormwater and urban runoff include toxins and pathogens that can affect our health, drinking water supplies, and the health of marine life.
- Contaminants include:
 - Industrial solvents, paints and chemicals
 - Heavy metals like lead, mercury, chromium and arsenic
 - Infection-causing bacteria
 - Pesticides and fertilizers
 - Trash like plastics, cigarette butts, candy wrappers and syringes



State of Surface Water Quality in Los Angeles County

- We all contribute to the problem
- Every major water body impaired and regulated
- 41 regulations in effect or under development
- Big fines for non-compliance
- \$44 billion to clean up the water
- Competing priorities for municipalities to spend money on



A Solution: Clean Water, Clean Beaches Measure

- Will fund an extensive, multi-faceted clean up program
- A long-term, stable, dedicated funding source
- Can fund both construction and O&M



Infiltration Structure Below





Sun Valley Park on Top

Multi-Benefit Solutions

- Funds from the measure would:
 - Protect local drinking water sources from contamination
 - Increase available drinking water supplies; reduce dependence on imported water
 - Be 90% reinvested in local economies



Tujunga Before



Tujunga After

Multi-Benefit Solutions

- 400,000 ocean-related hospitality and commercial jobs:
 - \$10 billion annually in wages
 - \$20 billion annually in goods and services
- LA Economic Roundtable:
 - Each \$1 investment in stormwater infrastructure generates
 \$2 in economic activity
 - \$5.4 billion over 10 years
- Reduce fiscal impacts on cities
- Anticipate/mitigate future regulations

Status of the Measure

- Public Protest Hearing in December
- Working with LA County Business Federation and many other groups
- Discussions with LA Regional Water Quality Board:
 - Emphasize regional solutions versus requiring on-site retention
- Vote late Spring 2013

