

SEWER LEAKS

A Publication of the Los Angeles Basin Section of CWEA
July 2024



April 25, 2024 Event:

The Pretreatment Program Drives the Future of One Water



LABS welcomed **Amanda Lujan** to speak on behalf of the pretreatment program the City of Los Angeles, Industrial Waste Management Division (IWMD) is implementing. It was interesting to hear the pain points and extensive monitoring programs in place to pinpoint sources of pollutant loading. LABS enjoyed meeting at Taco Social and listening to how future regulations will affect the pretreatment program. LABS is grateful for the teams efforts for making time to share the great work you do.

Cody Duncan, CCM

May 30, 2024 Event:

Mesmer Low Flow Diversion and Burton Way Median

On Thursday May 30th **Katie Harrel** and **Josette Decalzo** presented on two stormwater projects within the County of Los Angeles. The Mesmer Low Flow Project, located in Culver City, involved installation of a low flow diversion channel in the Ballona Creek channel to reduce pollutant loading to the marina. The diverted water is then sent to the City of Los Angeles sewer system to be treated and reused in the regional one water goals and objectives.



The Burton Way Median Project, located in Beverly Hills, scope involved installation of green streets with aesthetically pleasing bioswale for the local residents. The bioswale collects surface runoff and recharges the upper groundwater table. Both projects were economically funded through multiple sources which included Caltrans, Safe Clean Water Program and other grants to minimize the fiscal impact from the City of Beverly Hills. It was important to see how many different methods of funding can be used to implement best management practices for stormwater mitigation.

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June 11 – 13, 2024

CWEA Leadership Conference

LABS was well attended at the conference, and our own Student Young Professional Chair, **Blanca Calderon**, stated “the Leadership Retreat was amazing. The first day consisted of both professional and personal growth. The leadership speaker had a lot of very important concepts to introduce to the audience but the main topic was called knowing your *why*. This meant really deeply understanding why you do what you do for work and why you do what you do in general overall. He explained the formula of knowing what you do in order to see the impact that you do. His formula was, *I Inspire others to take meaningful action in order to turn obstacles into opportunities to better the world around them*. He helped everyone understand that your *why* should be not for you but for the good of others. He explained that it should not be because your job requires it but it should be a passion and it should be who you are. He provided more insight on how important is your *now*, which basically helps people understand that if they aren’t failing, then they aren’t trying hard enough now. Overall the speaker provided so much insight on understanding your own personal *why* so that you are not misled by someone else’s *why*. The second day consisted of having a leadership exercise where we were placed into groups to work on activities such as team building and understanding what our goals are for chapters. The exercise really helped everyone understand what goals are supposed to be met and their level of importance and the connection that chapters have with state representatives and other organizations. The Leadership Retreat overall was very inspirational, helpful and very memorable.” LABS looks forward to providing more leadership opportunities in the future.

June 15, 2024 event

Past President

Nothin’ But Sand Beach Cleanup

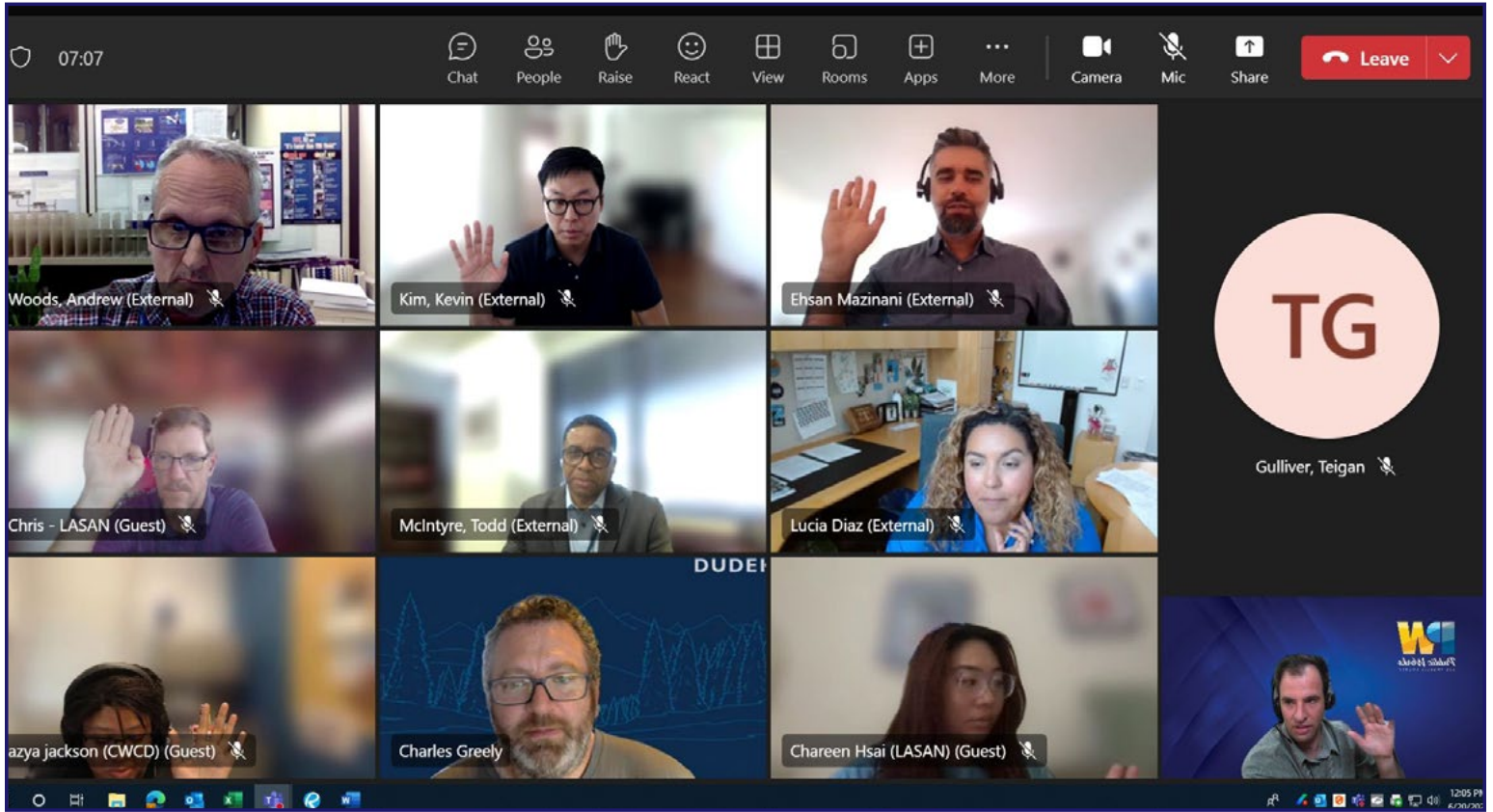
LABS Board and members met at Dockweiler beach to help do our part to clean up for the Past President event. The event was Heal the Bay’s monthly *Nothin’ But Sand* event where participants helped remove plastics and contaminants from the beach. Afterwards the group celebrated the hard work at the El Segundo Brewery.



Photos courtesy of CWEA

June 20, 2024

2024-25 Board Swear-in



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For information on becoming a sponsor of LABS, contact
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