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
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
Thank You

Hector J. Bordas
562/861-0316
hbordas@dpw.lacounty.gov
www.LACountyCleanWater.org