Archived: Monday, December 10, 2018 2:53:53 PM From: The Stormwater Report Sent: Thursday, December 6, 2018 2:25:39 PM To: sboynton@pwea.org Subject: The Stormwater Report: Most populous county in U.S. votes 'yes' on landmark stormwater legislation Sensitivity: Normal



Most populous county in U.S. votes 'yes' on landmark stormwater legislation

On Nov. 6, Los Angeles (LA) County, Calif., voters voiced support for Measure W, which establishes a parcel tax to fund the county's Safe Clean Water Program. According to ballot language, the tax would provide approximately \$300 million each year to build a retinue of stormwater management infrastructure aimed at bringing the county's 88 municipalities into compliance with Clean Water Act regulations.

This modest tax is expected to make a big difference and includes measures to ensure equity and transparency.

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WEF readers lead the way in addressing stormwater issues.

Report lays out challenges and opportunities for water quality trading programs

Compared to similar market-based environmental programs that aim to address climate change or protect endangered wildlife, participation in water quality trading (WQT) programs has remained low in the U.S. for decades.

According to a recent report, *Breaking Down Barriers: Priority Actions for Advancing Water Quality Trading*, a major reason why potential buyers and sellers hesitate to take advantage of WQT programs is because the learning curve is too steep. The report, produced by a group of representatives from wastewater utilities, agricultural groups, regulators, and WQT facilitators called the National Network on Water Quality Trading, provides an action-oriented guide to drive design of and demand for more navigable WQT programs.

The report outlines how stakeholders at all levels can contribute to more accessible WQT

Climate change and development have intensified flash floods around the world

While average temperatures gradually warm in most parts of the world, resulting in increasingly frequent and intense rainstorms, human expansion and development continue to disrupt the natural landscape's ability to manage stormwater runoff. According to the first global analysis of how these trends already have affected rates of both precipitation and runoff generation, existing climate predictions may underestimate how today's land-use decisions could influence tomorrow's flash floods.

Researchers from Columbia University (New York) and Wuhan University (China) based their findings on 90 years of data.

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Survey results caution against 'one-size-fits-all' approach to green infrastructure outreach

A statewide study administered by researchers at the University of Vermont (Burlington) suggest that a household's decision to adopt green infrastructure hinges on whether they have had personal experience with flooding on their property, whether they perceive stormwater management as an issue in their neighborhood, and where they live.

"We need a flexible, adaptive approach to help tailor outreach and education strategies across diverse populations and landscapes," said study author Sarah Coleman.

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