

Seal Beach WAVE



San Gabriel River Trash Mitigation Initiative Update

On July 25, the City Council welcomed U.S. Representative Dave Min for a site visit to discuss the San Gabriel River (SGR) Trash Mitigation Initiative. Rep. Min has supported the project by submitted a funding request for \$1,000,000 for mitigation measures.

On July 16, the City Council presented a Certificate of Recognition to Ava Waggoner in celebration of the completion of her Girl Scout Gold Award Project. Ava aimed to reduce pollution, and her project culminated in the installation of a sign with the call to action, "From river to ocean, keep trash out of motion!" Stop by the 1st Street Beach Lot to check it out!

The City of Seal Beach continues to experience undesirable trash levels on its public beach - with the most significant contributions from the San Gabriel River outlet to the Pacific Ocean - and intends to evaluate and



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implement solutions to mitigate this issue through the San Gabriel River Trash Mitigation Initiative, an initiative involving regional partnerships, multiple funding sources, and enhanced cooperation between the country's first and sixth largest counties.

With a growing Great Pacific Garbage Patch, migrating sea turtles in the San Gabriel River, and over 400 tons of beach trash collected from waterways in 2024 alone, the San Gabriel River Trash Mitigation Initiative is critical for the residents of Orange County and Los Angeles County as well as the millions of visitors who access the beach and ocean and support these areas. The members of the San Gabriel River Trash Mitigation Initiative are working to secure consistent funding to:

- Assess the extent, distribution, and sources of pollution within the San Gabriel River and its watershed tributaries, including both point and non-point sources of contamination.
- Develop and implement comprehensive water quality monitoring program to assess the impact of trash debris on water quality parameters.
- Identify and implement cleanup strategies and technologies suitable for addressing identified pollution sources, as well as assign responsibilities for future operations and maintenance.
- Engage key stakeholders, including local communities, government agencies, environmental organizations, and businesses, to gather input and support for the proposed cleanup initiative.

To learn more about the SGR Trash Mitigation Initiative, [please click here](#).