## Lower San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watershed

Greater Los Angeles Integrated Regional Water Management Plan January 22, 2008, 9:30 am to 11:00 am Lakewood City Hall, Executive Board Meeting Room

## Present:

Art Aguilar, Central Basin
Desi Alvarez, City of Downey
John Biggs, Brown and Caldwell
Shirley Birosik, RWQCB
Scott Dellinger, Brown and Caldwell

Sharon Gates, City of Long Beach Eric Leung, City of Long beach Joone Lopez, Central Basin MWD Alex Kenefick (Watershed Coalition) Kevin Wattier, City of Long Beach Ralph Webb, SEWC (via phone) Tim Whorley (RMC) Mary Zauner, LACSD

well Frank Kuo, LAC FCD

Topic/Issue		Discussion	Action/ Follow up
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Purpose	Kevin Wattier opened the meeting at 9:37 am with introductions.	•
2.	Review December 4, 2007 Steering Committee Meeting Notes	Kevin Wattier reviewed the December 4, 2007 meeting minutes.	Meeting Minutes Approved
3.	Review December 6, 2007 Leadership Committee Meeting Notes	Frank Kuo reviewed the Leadership Committee Meeting Notes from December 6, 2007.  Topics covered at the Leadership Committee Meeting included the following topics:  Lobbying effort – City of Los Angeles more active.  Letters – Allocation of funding to Southern California, Larger appropriations, support for funding, to Ventura and Upper Santa Clara River regarding Prop 84 funding being allocated in a manner consistent with Prop 84.  Foundation Funding – Annenberg Foundation presented to LC by Nancy Steele to provide for additional DAC outreach, working on formal application, will work with group to utilize.  Consultant Contract – 2007 Contracted Completed, working on Highlights "Lite" Document, update of water supply numbers.  MOU – Up for discussion at upcoming LC meeting  Prop 50 Round 1 – County serve as grantee, targeting early February to go to board for authorization, develop automated web system approach for management. New contract signed, ready to execute.	

;	Review Draft January 23, 2008 Leadership Committee Agenda a. Discuss Draft Agenda Items and Provide Direction to Chair b. Proposed Subregional Committee Update to Leadership Committee	Kevin Wattier reviewed the Leadership Committee Agenda for December 6 <sup>th</sup> and covered the following topics:  Kevin Wattier and Art Aguilar will not be able to attend the LC Meeting. Eric Leung will attend for Kevin; Desi Alvarez will attend for Art.  Public Comments – Chair looking for feedback from SC on how to handle public comments during LC Meetings. Discussion included the following points:  General Comments at beginning of meeting Specific comments during agenda item for agenda item Important to maintain free flow dialog Need to set some sort of time limit Public comments should be directed towards agenda item Continuation of dialog allowed for agenda items Current system seems to work well  Steering Committee Chair Reports – Keep each other up to date on what the subregions are doing.  Outreach Efforts – County is utilizing city services staff to meet with cities, would like input from SCs on how to proceed. As Chair of Gateway JPA group, Kevin invited the County to come to the February 14 <sup>th</sup> meeting at noon at the Gateway COG Building. Question was asked if it is up to Steering Committees to set up outreach and ask county to attend. The County is looking to augment existing strategy and wants to help provide outreach effort needed. Alex noted he was funded by the Annenberg foundation, working on outreach in Lower LA River Watershed.	
5.	Funding Contribution Status	Central Basin MWD and Long Beach Water will work on filling funding contribution gap once it is known.	Kevin and Wart will resolve funding gap.
6.	Preparation for Prop 84/1E Project Implementation	Scott Dellinger led a discussion on planning ahead for Prop 84/1E funding. Looking at getting ready for funding in 2008/2009 with no funding expected in 2007/2008. Funding is allocated for Prop 84 in the governor's budget for 2008/2009, money is allocated for Prop 1E, but it may be delayed for Prop 84. The goal of this process is to plan ahead to allow for a bottom up approach, waiting to the last minute may lead to having to take a top down approach to meet deadlines.	J J .
7.	IRWMP – Phase II Subconsultant Scope of Work	Scott Dellinger distributed handouts and discussed the scope of work in the new consultant contract. The CIP strategy is a discussion of where we need to go. Looking at the Plan Update and the possibility of utilization of a planning grant for updates, not sure on the approach yet and looking at alternatives for updating and grant applications.	Consultant will provide updated schedule.
8.	Other Items	Gateway JPA Question was asked if there is a conflict of interest in the Gateway JPA Chair and LSGLA Subregional Chair being the same person. Kevin Wattier noted that his intent and Long Beach's position is working together as the Gateway JPA will be working through the Steering Committee and what the Gateway JPA develops will be a subset of the SC. The	

Gateway JPA is working on submitting an application for a planning grant (Prop 50 additional planning money) as Gateway JPA to state. Gateway JPA is comprised of South Gate, Signal Hill, Downey, Long Beach Water Department, City of Long Beach, Cerritos, Paramount, Norwalk, Vernon, Lakewood, Santa Fe Springs, Bellflower, and South East Water Coalition.

Intent of the group is to come together for common issues and to address all project areas. All are welcome to participate, but to join must become a member. The Gateway JPA will also seek funding before all 26 Gateway Cities join.

## **MOU and Operating Guidelines**

Overview of the status of the MOU. It was finalized based on input from Steering Committee Chairs and going to the LC for review. It will also be sent back to the Steering Committees for last review before being approved by the LC.

Question was asked if this is a new MOU or the old MOU. Modification to the MOU would have to go to old MOU signers to revise. The intent was stated that it is to replace existing MOU for Prop 50 and moving forward.

Question was asked about what will happened to the money awarded under the previous MOU. Responded that grant will be covered under the State-County contract and the MOU between the county and project proponents.

Question was asked on what are the answers to the legal questions with moving forward with a new MOU. Comment continued with the belief that the adoption of a new MOU is ill advised, not being done with the support of everyone in the County and doesn't cover everyone in the County. In addition that MOU adopts operating guidelines that self appoints a limited group that are not elected, don't represent people, makes the County the Chair, and is a restrictive closed process.

Another comment provided that there is no appeals process outlined for the average member of the IRWMP Process.

## **Conflict of Interest**

Discussion occurred on the existence of potential conflicts of interest. There were comments regarding MWD having a conflict of interest because MWD is on the different side of some issues than some of the member agencies and there should be a discussion about it at the LC level. The general comment was that there should be an awareness of conflicts of interests and methods to resolve (such as recusing from vote). The issue of consultant conflict of interest was raised and the idea suggested that the consultants should identify who their clients are.

9.	Future Meeting	Lower SGLA Subregion: Monday, February 25, 2008, 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm. Executive Board	
	Schedule for Steering	Room – Lakewood City Hall – 5050 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, CA	
	Committee and		
	Leadership Committee	Leadership Committee: Wednesday, January 23, 2008, 9:30 to noon, at LA County DPW,	
		Alhambra Conference Room B.	
		Wednesday, February 27, 2008, 9:30 to noon, at LA County DPW, Alhambra Conference	
		Room B.	
10.	. Meeting Adjourn	Meeting Adjourned at 11:11 am.	