

Lower San Gabriel and Los Angeles Rivers Watershed

Subregional Steering Committee Meeting

Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

Location: Central Basin Municipal Water District

Tuesday August 25, 2009

Topic/Issue	Discussion	Action/Follow Up
1. Welcome, Introductions & Purpose	Belinda Faustinos opened the meeting at 2:40 pm with introductions. Welcomed everyone back from the last meeting back in April.	
2. Review of April 21, 2009 Meeting Notes	Brief conversation of minutes, no major changes to minutes. Minutes approved with no changes.	Minutes Approved
3. Status Report on IRWM Activities/Leadership Committee Actions	<p>Belinda described that the Leadership Committee meetings staffed by LA County Public Works have been ongoing, however the consultants have been put on hold to avoid incurring costs. The committee has been working to identify project priorities. Other items discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Regional Acceptance process. Documentation has been submitted to Dept. of Water Resources to represent the LA Region. Notification to come by late August-early September➤ Siya indicated that they have \$5.5 million for the Greater LA Region and 14 identified projects. Priorities need to be made as a region for which projects will be submitted according to the Prop 84 guidelines. Guidelines will be released, comment period will be 45-60 days according to Tracie Billington in Sacramento.➤ Belinda explained the current bond funding. State agencies were given a certain amount of cash to pay grantees through the end of the calendar year (December 2009). The governor is committed to paying out existing grants. Another bond sale is expected in October 2009. Invoices for all work should be submitted to Flood Control District for processing by Siya.➤ Brief discussion followed regarding which projects will get funded out of the \$5.5 million. Siya reiterated that priorities must be made.➤ A workshop focusing on Proposition 84 will be taking place the 2nd week of September. Attendees were informed of this workshop, more details to come.	Projects must be prioritized.

<p>4. Review of project list & preliminary recommendations from the DAC Ad Hoc Committee</p>	<p>Belinda provided an overview of recent DAC meetings regarding the Lower LA projects and described the inconsistencies and gaps with recent lists. Extensive discussion followed regarding the project lists, several updates made to the lists as requested by the consultants, presentations given for various projects, and the best way to manage the list based on project priorities according to each city or organization. Topics of the discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recommendation to set up an internal deadline to review projects, similar to the process used by the Upper LA region, and delete any projects that are not accurate. ➤ IRWMP should be a broader process and projects should be tailored according to the guidelines, which is why the database should be correct. ➤ Database is not the problem, but rather the nature of these projects which are constantly changing. ➤ Suggestion to include a date on the database to provide the most recent updates ➤ Database updates have been redundant and time consuming, issue of “upload data exhaustion.” ➤ Issue of DAC Criteria and whether or not projects should be listed as a DAC based on the criteria, or whether they serve a DAC area. ➤ Idea came up to review the consultant’s contract to obtain a correct and updated list of projects, validate the project list, identify the entity that included the project, include date, make sure the projects are consistent with project criteria and other policy goals and finalize the list. ➤ Siya reiterated the funding availability for each Sub-region which will be approximately \$3 million (optimistic projection). ➤ Issue of using census blocks vs. census tracts on the maps to identify whether or not the projects are truly within DAC areas. ➤ Look at projects that are not only water supply projects, but rather projects where the benefits can be quantified. For example, employment opportunities and quality of life improvements for residents should qualify as a DAC criteria, in addition to the water supply/water quality enhancements. ➤ Distinctions must be made between projects serving a DAC area vs. projects located within a DAC area, and how those projects are evaluated. ➤ Issue came up of moving away from funding the large-scale projects and looking at the projects in a “micro” view vs. “macro.” Sometimes the smaller projects provide just as much benefits as the large scale projects. ➤ 	<p>Review consultant’s contract to obtain a correct and updated list of projects</p> <p>Validate project list, identify the entity that included the project, Include Date, ensure consistency with criteria and other policy goals, and Finalize List</p> <p>Include most updated projects, delete projects without any updates or those without a corresponding entity.</p>
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5. IRWMP for Disadvantaged Community Areas (DAC)	Discussion focused on ways to assist small projects prepare them for when the funding is released. It was pointed out that there will be funding set aside from Proposition 84 to assist with the technical assistance and outreach for these small projects. The DAC Ad Hoc Committee will re-group, identify the DAC projects and criteria, and return to the Steering Committee with a refined list.	
6. Other Items	<p>Brief update provided by Dave regarding the Gateway Cities and their request to be considered its own IRWMP sub-region from the Greater LA region, or a Gateway Cities Joint Powers Authority with its distinct member cities. The issue will be resolved sometime in early September. Central Basin will decide whether or not they will participate in both groups if/when the need arises. There will still be 3 distinct areas of coverage between the Gateway Cities COG, the Gateway Cities JPA, and the area served by the Central Basin Gateway service area.</p> <p>Siya will ask the consultants if they can provide assistance with a total of 15 projects instead of 10 for technical assistance for those projects that qualify for Proposition 84 funding. Thus far, there are 3 additional meetings that the consultants are able to attend, consistent with available funding in their contract agreement.</p>	
7. Next meeting	Next meeting set for Sept. 15, 2009 at 1:30-3:30 pm at Central Basin offices.	