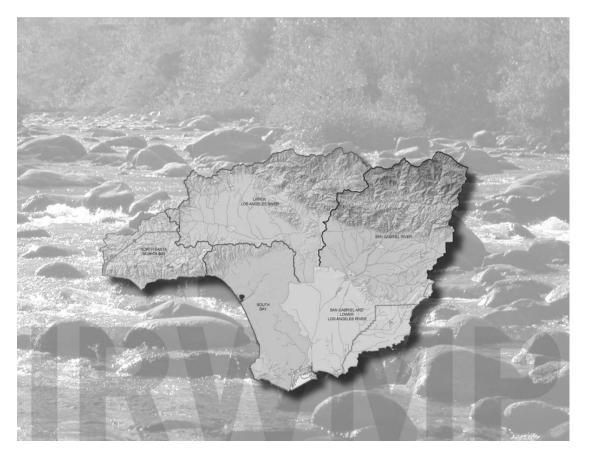
# LA IRMWP Decision Making Structure Assessment & Observations



April 5, 2007 Leadership Committee Presentation



#### Background

- Successful first year
  - Adoption of regional plan & targets
  - Receipt of \$25M in state funding
  - Remarkable dialogue initiated
- Moving into implementation
  - Need for coordination on grants
  - Need for process to allocate \$
  - Need to monitor progress
  - Need to continue dialogue & engage ALL stakeholders
- LC/SCs need to revisit decision-making
  - Consultant team tasked to examine & provide observations

### **Synopsis of Approach**

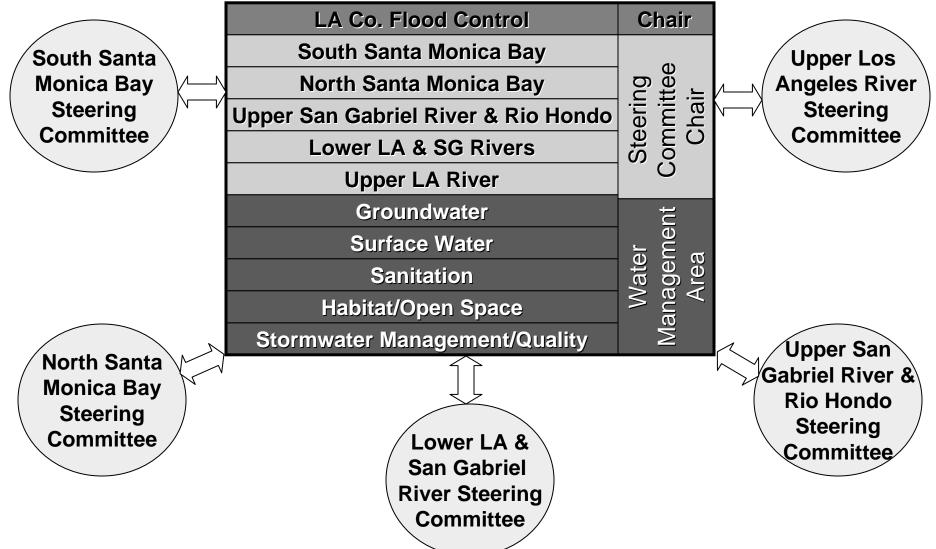
- Telephone interviews w/ LC members
- Discussions w/ SCs
- Review of other decision-making structures
- Observations on long-term decision-making

#### **Current Structure**

- LC makes formal decisions regarding scope and content of the plan
  - Two representatives per sub-region
  - Chair: LA Co. Flood Control
- Five sub-regional SCs provide input to LC on major issues contained in plan
  - Executive level reps from agencies and organizations involved in local water management
  - No specific guidelines for selection; each has different composition

#### **Current Structure**

#### LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE



#### **Regional Water Management Group**

- Per IRWM Grant Program Guidelines, a Regional Water Management Group had to be established to obtain Prop 50 funds
  - 3 of more public agencies, at least 2 of which had statutory authority over water management
  - Established by means of a JPA, MOU, or other written agreement
  - Purpose: IRWMP Prep, adoption, & implementation
- For plan adoption, MOU formed RWMG
  - Signatories constitute RWMG

# **Regional Water Management Group**

- MOU purpose of RWMG:
  - Coordinate & share water resources info for Prop 50 grant funding & implementation
  - Coordinate & collaborate to develop individual or joint projects, including but not limited to an IRWMP & solicitation of external funding for IRWMP implementation
- MOU does not specify decision-making structure for RWMG
- LC currently serves as RWMG & is responsible for plan development & implementation (per Interim Operating Guidelines)

# **Summary of Feedback**

- 1. Representation
  - LC/SC roles
  - LC structure
  - SC structure
- 2. Transparency
  - Stakeholder communication
  - LC meeting structure
- 3. Funding
  - Administrative & technical support

#### Potential LC Roles & Responsibilities:

- Prepare & maintain "modified MOU"?
- Provide regional LA IRWMP oversight?
- Track regional progress on LA IRWMP targets?
- Act as liaison between State & SCs?
- Represent the region's needs to the State?
- Provide a balance for sub-regional interests?
- Find, coordinate & pursue funding opportunities?
- Divide regional grant funding equitably?
- Provide regional LA IRMWP outreach?
- Periodically update the LA IRWMP?

### Leadership Committee Structure

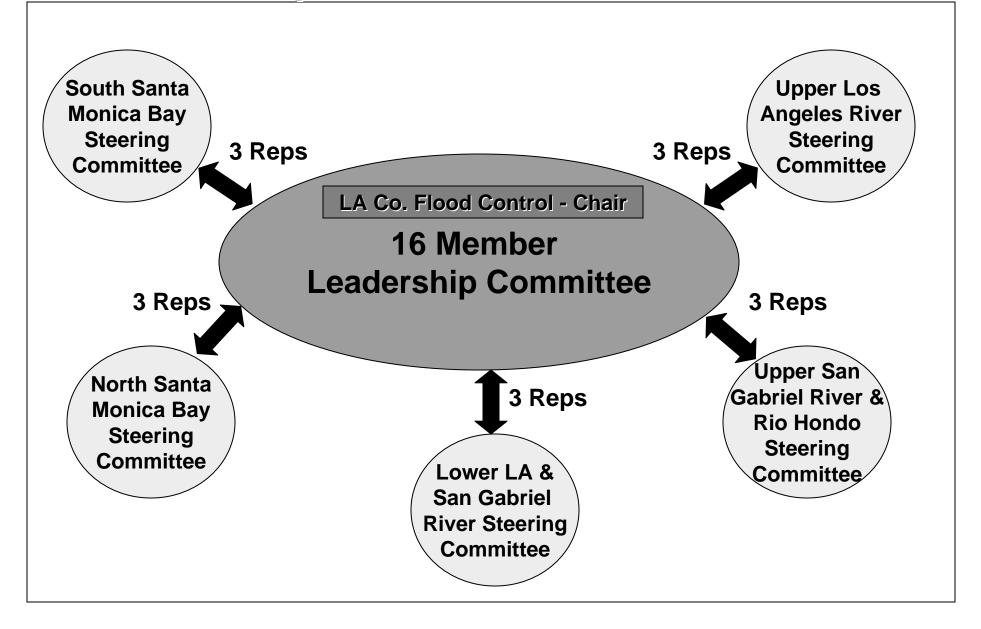
- Some said current LC structure is unnecessarily exclusive
- Others said an expanded LC is unwieldy
- Some said SC members should select water management area reps
- Most agreed terms would be beneficial
  - Most reject term limits
- Some indicated broader representation is needed
  - Non-Profits
  - Cities

#### Leadership Committee Structure

- Most were satisfied with County as Chair
- Some suggested hiring outside facilitator

Consider: Increasing to 3 reps appointed by each SC & County Chair = 16 member LC

#### **Leadership Committee Structure**



#### Leadership Committee Comments

 Many LC members at the 4/5/07 meeting expressed concern with the three reps/SC suggestion regarding insufficient Water Management Area (WMA) representation

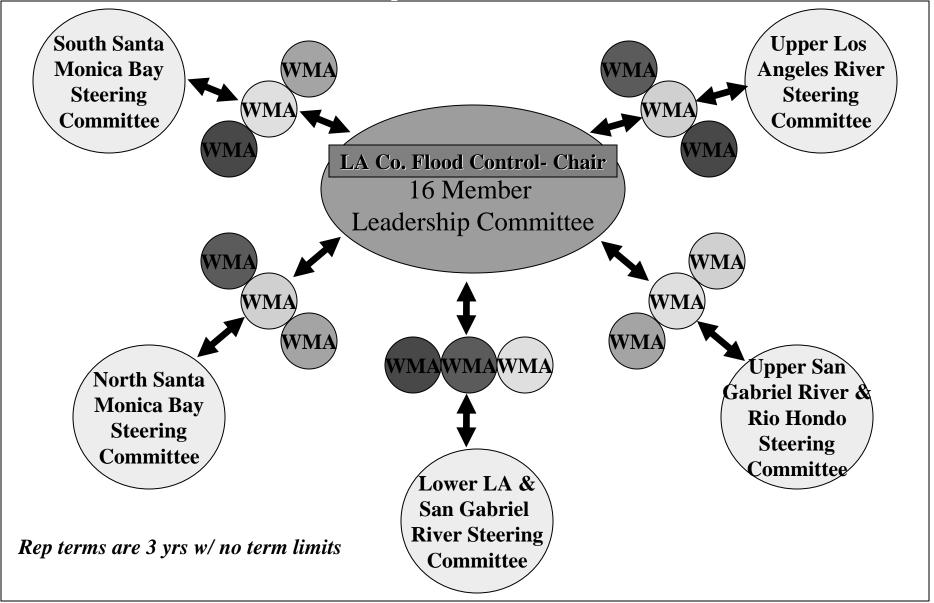
**To Address This Consider:** 

1. Requiring that each of the LC reps per SC represent a different WMA

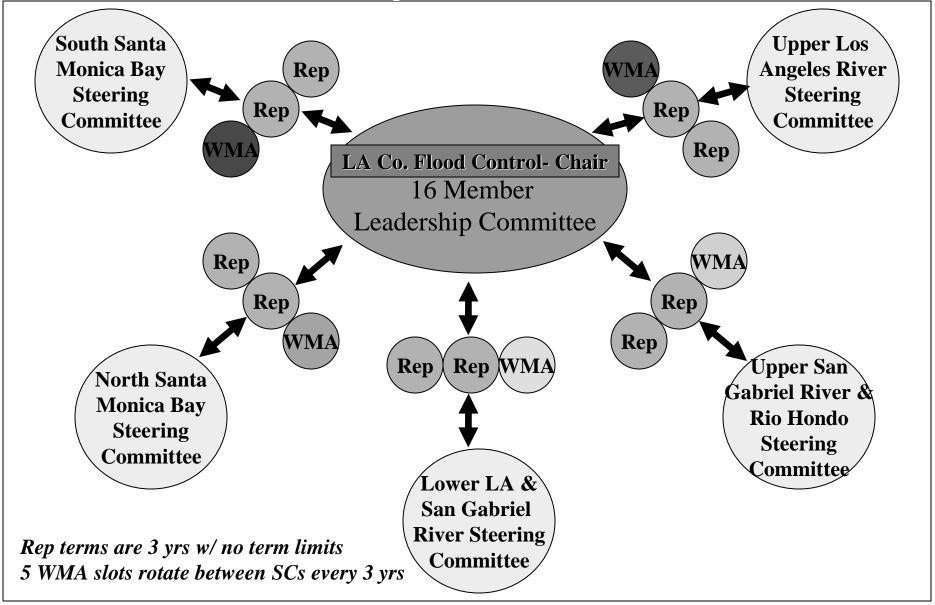
or

2. Giving each SC the responsibility to appoint a rep for one WMA; rotate the WMA slots between subregions on the same term as the LC appointees (suggest every 3 yrs)

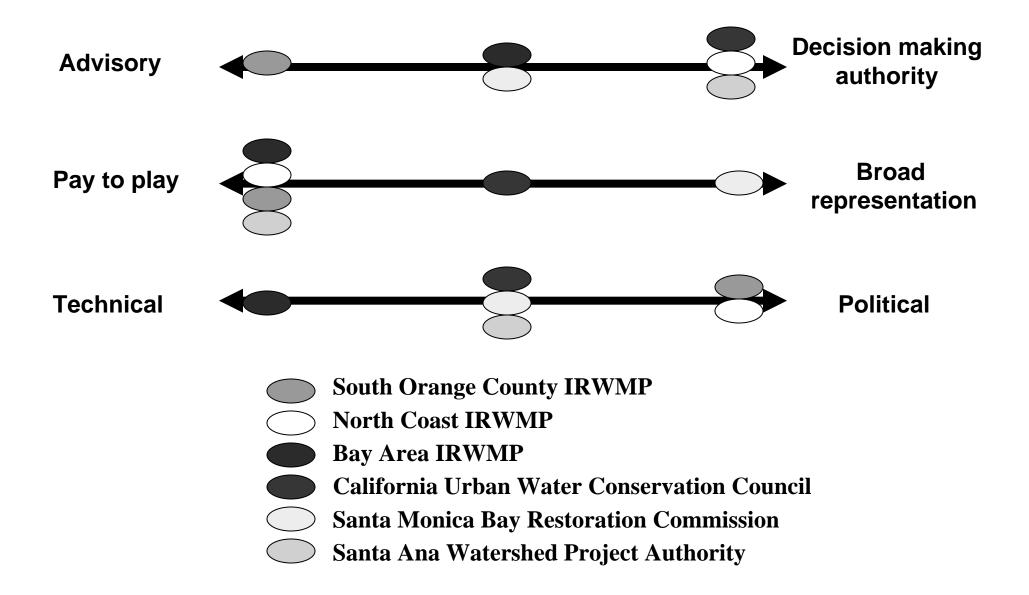
# LC Structure: Option 1



# LC Structure: Option 2



### **Other LC Structures: Defining Features**



#### Potential SC Roles & Responsibilities:

- Represent sub-regional interests?
- Provide outreach to ensure input from stakeholders?
- Maintain sub-regional prioritized project list?
- Allocate grant funding for project implementation?
- Maintain list of sub-regional goals & priorities?
- Develop, as appropriate, sub-regional goals & targets (this varied by sub-region)?
- Track sub-regional goal, target & planning progress?
- ID & sponsor sub-regional planning studies?
- Work with LC to update the Plan as needed?

#### **Steering Committee Structure**

- Most said more decision-making should occur at SC level
- Discussions on representation varied between sub-region
  - Some indicated that more non-profit reps needed
  - Others indicated more city reps needed
  - Others said representation was good as is

#### Transparency

- Need for more formal meeting structure
  - Advance meeting agenda & posted/distributed minutes
  - Sync SCs timing to discuss LC agendas.
  - Rearrange LC seating
  - Key LC action items submitted in simple letter format
  - Take public comment at LC meeting
- Need to formalize LC & SC roles
- Decisions on project prioritization & readiness should be made by a group that does not include proponents of any projects on the list.

#### Funding

- Many noted a need to arrange for midterm/long-term equitable funding system
- Need for ongoing staff support
  - Hiring of dedicated staff
  - Use of agency staff
  - Use of consultants

#### **Key Areas for Discussion**

- What should the roles of the LC & SCs be for plan implementation?
- Does the current structure sufficiently provide for participation from all stakeholders who have indicated a desire to collaborate in the planning process (by signing the MOU)? Should the LC size increase for greater stakeholder engagement?
- How should mid-term/long-term funding & staff support be obtained?
- RWMG was developed per requirements for Prop 50 future IRWMP funding opportunities have since come to exist. What should the role of the group be in seeking future funding?

#### **Next Steps**

- Issue draft TM next week w/ specifics.
- April Collect verbal & written input from SCs
  & others (e.g. Watershed Council)
- May\* LC considers action on the memo via a formal "action item" identifying specific recommendations, &, where appropriate, providing language regarding changes to the MOU &/or operating guidelines.
- \* Consulting team is not scoped to support a June meeting of the LC, and thus hope to conclude the governance issue in May.)

# The End



INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS, SCIENTISTS AND CONSULTANTS

#### **Other Structures**

**IRWMP** Regions

- South Orange County IRWMP
- North Coast IRWMP
- Bay Area IRWMP

**Other Organizations** 

- California Urban Water Conservation Council
- Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
- Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

# South Orange County IRWMP

- For implementation, Executive Committee of elected officials will serve as decisionmaking body
  - Consensus-building forum
  - Decisions taken to individual boards for approval
- Participation in cost-share required for EC membership
- Management Committee makes minor amendments to IRWMP & project list
  - 1 rep from each agency
- County serves as Chair & provides staff support

#### North Coast IRWMP

- Policy Review Panel provides oversight & direction
  - Consists of 2 reps (elected level) from each county, appointed by county's Board of Sups
- Technical Peer Review Committee provides tech support for PRP
  - 2 reps from each county (agency staff, NGO staff, consultants, etc.) appointed by County BOS
- Project Team handles project work including development of ranking criteria
  - Comprised of consultants & agency staff

#### **Bay Area IRWMP**

- Technical Coordinating Committee has decision-making authority
  - 2 or 3 reps from each service function coordinating committee
- 4 service function coordinating committees
  - Comprised of reps from agencies w/in region
  - Update goals, objectives, & project info w/in their functional areas
- Decision-making structure is currently under review

# California Urban Water Conservation Council

- Members divided into 3 groups
  - Group 1: Water Suppliers
  - Group 2: Advocacy Organizations
  - Group 3: Interested Parties
- To pass an action requires affirmative vote by majority of Group 1 & majority of Group 2
- Steering Committee serves as Board
  - Equal representation from Groups 1 & 2
  - Responsible for general management activities

# Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

- Governing Board (20 & 15 non-voting) is decision-making group
  - 9 elected from broad stakeholder body representing a balance of interests (cities, environmental groups, business/economic)
  - Remaining are reps from Fed, State, & local agencies
- Technical Advisory Committee deals w/ technical & scientific interests
  - Scientific & technical professionals appointed by Governing Board

#### Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

- Comprised of 5 largest agencies w/in Santa Ana River Watershed
- SAWPA Commission exercises power & authority
  - One Board Member or GM from each agency
- Technical Committee of GMs makes recommendations to Commission on all technical & financial issues
  - Comprised of GM from each agency
- Operates on an individual project basis