

Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
Upper Los Angeles River Sub-Region Steering Committee

Meeting Notes: February 7, 2007
LADWP Conference Room 1471

The meeting began at 10:10 am

1. Introductions

Those present included:

Acevedo, Mario	LADWP
Baharians, Zora	LA City, Bureau of Sanitation
Benson, Mary	Foothill Trails
Birosik, Shirley	RWQCB-LA
Boman, Bradley	City of Pasadena
Erb, Tom	LADWP
Farassati, Alex	City of Calabasas
Griset, Dan	SCAG
Horne, Mark	Brown and Caldwell
Irani, Meher	LA City, Bureau of Sanitation
Kerjon, Lee	LACDPW
Kuo, Frank	LACDPW
Mackowski, Mark	ULARA Watermaster
McGinley, Lianne	Burbank Water and Power
Steele, Nancy	LASGRWC
Stolarz, Dash	Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority
Winter, Melanie	The River Project

2. Final IRWMP

- The final IRWMP is available for download at www.lawaterplan.org or for purchase at Blair Graphics (at 310-829-4621). The cost to purchase the IRWMP was incorrectly stated to be \$110/copy; the correct price is \$141.50/copy plus tax and shipping.
- It was announced that the draft LA River Revitalization Master Plan and associated Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report/Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement are available for review and comment at www.lariver.org. Comments on both documents are due by March 19, 2007.

3. Update on Leadership Committee

a. Status of \$25 million Implementation Grant

- Region has received oral confirmation concerning the grant, we are awaiting written confirmation

b. Summary of January 31 State Workshop

- State is considering proposal to allocate most of the remaining Prop 50 funds to regions that submitted Step 2 applications but were not initially recommended for funding; proposal would result in \$64 million of remaining Prop 50 funds (Powerpoint presentation and scoping comment form was distributed)
- Funding comments are due by February 8, 2007

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- State has a public hearing on February 20, 2007; Final funding recommendations are expected shortly afterwards
- Prop 84 funds may be distributed on an iterative performance basis; \$215 million is allocated for LA/Ventura Counties; \$100 million is unallocated
- Prop 84 identifies 25 water management strategies as opposed to 20 in Prop 50; IRWMP Report will need to be updated in the future to address the additional water strategies
- Prop 1E - \$300 million for flood management projects may also be included in upcoming grant solicitation
- Draft Project Solicitation Package (PSP) expected in June; Final PSP expected in September, with a November due date.
- State is seeking comments regarding "Performance Based" approach; the consultant team will assist in the preparation of draft comments for consideration by a subcommittee of the Leadership Committee
- Request was made to make Leadership Committee comments to the State publicly available

c. Meeting with Calleguas and Ventura County

- County is going to schedule a meeting between the Leadership Committee and Ventura County and Calleguas in February to discuss the split of the \$215 million of Prop 84 funds
- One potential method to split the funds is by population; a second method is to earmark a minimum amount per county with the remainder split by population

4. Organization

- 20 to 25 organizations have signed the IRWMP MOU whose purpose was to share information and prepare and adopt an IRWMP for Prop 50
- MOU did not empower anyone or authorize a governance structure; Interim governance structure is still in place
- Leadership Committee is considering modifying the current governance structure so that it is more inclusive
- Consultant has been tasked to assist in this effort by evaluating what governance structures have been adopted by other regions and to facilitate conversations with each of the steering committees and the Leadership Committee
- Suggestion was made that property owners, neighborhood councils, non governmental organizations, and other key organizations be considered for appointment to the Leadership Committee
- Another suggestion is to add one additional representative to the Leadership Committee from each respective steering committee
- Better communication between the steering committees and the Leadership Committee is needed, including the prompt preparation and posting of meeting minutes
- The LA&SGRWC provided written comments (letter dated January 29, 2007) on governance to the Leadership Committee that was distributed

5. Consultant Scope of Work

- There are approximately \$415 million of remaining funds; B&C contract expires June 30, 2007
- Consultant Team has been reorganized to better meet the needs of our Region; Mark Horne has replaced Michael Drennan as overall project manager
- Some members of the steering committee were not comfortable with this change and expressed frustration over this decision by the Leadership Committee

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- Leadership Committee has authorized \$300,000 for B&C to proceed with the following tasks: Decision-Making Structure; Project Prioritization Framework; Project Identification/Integration; and the preparation of a "Highlights Document"; \$10,000 was also authorized for B&C to assist with preparing written comments to the state concerning a "Performance Based" approach
- A request was made for B&C to provide a cost estimate for detailed habitat planning (this task had been identified in other reports)
- A new RFP will be needed to bring a consultant on board after the B&C contract expires
- Additional funding will be needed to pay for consultant services to assist with future grant applications and to update the IRWMP

6. Project Identification/Integration/Prioritization

- B&C will be working on defining and developing criteria for developing a framework for project prioritization (based on state priorities and Prop 50 and 84 guidelines)
- B&C will work with the steering committees on developing this framework and will take the framework to the Leadership Committee for approval
- B&C will work with the steering committees and Leadership Committee on prioritizing projects in each sub-region in the attempt to identify the top 30 projects in each sub-region
- B&C is further tasked with integrating up to ten projects within each sub-region and then re-ranking the improved/integrated projects.
- B&C has an aggressive schedule to accomplish these goals by June 30, 2007, unless the B&C contract is extended

7. Upcoming Steering Committee Meetings

- There was general consensus that the Steering Committee should meet prior to the Leadership Committee to allow the Steering Committee to provide meaningful input to the Leadership Committee. To the extent possible, the upcoming schedule of Steering Committee meetings will be revised approximately.

The meeting concluded at noon.

Meeting Notes prepared by Mario Acevedo, LADWP